

A consistent message to the church is to grow, to mature by maintaining in the realm of light, motivated by the promise of eternal inheritance.

That we, each one of us, do our part so that our church has that same trend as the Philadelphia Church.

12.14.25

# The Church of Philadelphia

## Our evaluation lens for eternal inheritance

Revelation 2-3

### 1. The 6th Church Philadelphia:

#### 2. Commending the church of Philadelphia:

Revelation 3:7-13 (NABV)

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy,

He who is **true**

He who has the **key** of David. He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens."

Revelation 22:13 (NABV)

Interpreting the Double Kingdom

in **The key** of the house of David. I will lay on his shoulder so he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open.

Revelation 1:18 (NABV)

I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am

alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the **keys**

of Hades and of Death.

"Keys" is a **metaphor**, a word that is used to transfer meaning from one thing to another.

A key opens something that was previously locked.

Having the **keys** of Hades and of death indicates that, having conquered death through the resurrection, Jesus Christ is now sovereign over physical death and He is in control of Hades.

So that when a person puts his faith and trust in Jesus Christ there at that instant he has eternal life. He no longer has to fear condemnation and being sentenced to the lake of fire.

He who has the **key** of David. He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens."

8 "I know your **works**. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little **strength**; have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

Revelation 9:8 (NABV)

8 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect. For **they are not all Israel who are of Israel**.

9 **For are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham?** but, "the seed your **seed** shall be called."

10 That is, those who are the **children of the flesh** (they are not the children of God) but **the children of the promise** are counted as the **seed**.

those who have been born again through faith in that **seed** are the children of promise

11 Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but **become** you have kept My command to persevere,

Not that the Philadelphia believers will be worshiped by their generation. But that some of those generations will come to faith in Christ through the Philadelphia testimony, and will enter in worship with the Philadelphia Church.

12 I also will keep you from the **hour** of which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who shall enter the earth.

12th day (12th), as (day) (12th) when... LN 67.1 occasion, time (as (day) a 12th instance, a relatively infrequent period of time (day 12), a 12th instance, the twelfth of the day, measured from sunrise to sunset (day 12) when we anticipate for a later treatment of the natural world.

Where we get our English word "hour." It means a literal hour or a period of time, a season, a definite space or division of time occurring at fixed intervals, and it is used figuratively for a general period of time.

Revelation 2:26-27 (NABV)

26 "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden.

27 But **hold fast** what you have till I come.

Revelation 2:12-13 (NABV)

12 "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, 'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:

13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. And you **hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith**

Faith in the sense of the body of truth, doctrine, teaching and application that is part of Christianity.

14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.

So maintain basic doctrine

This word **krato** is used a number of times encouraging the church with a nuance emphasizing that we should hold to doctrine, biblical **truth**, and correct **practice**

They have correct doctrine, truth; they have not compromised **truth**, or it's **practice** due to the religious pressure coming from the culture around them.

**krato** is used repeatedly to emphasize the importance of building on to **truth/ right doctrine** and it's consistent practice throughout our lives.

And that we should be careful not let false religious doctrine, or practice draw us away from that because eternal inheritance is promised to the faithful.

12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

2 John 8 (NABV)

8 Look to yourselves, that we do not **lose those things we worked for**, but that we may receive a full reward.

The implication is that, if we advance to a certain level of spiritual growth and maturity, that if we regression we lose capacity for serving God, capacity for righteousness and for wisdom, we also forfeit whatever rewards we might have gained, whatever privileges and responsibilities we might have been given for the eternal kingdom because of those subsequent failures.

Paul also speaks of this

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (NABV)

24 Do you not know that those who race in a race all run, but **one** receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it.

25 And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for **an imperishable crown**.

26 Therefore I run thus not with uncertainty. Thus I fight not as one who beats the air.

27 But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should **become disqualified**.

Revelation 2:7 (NABV)

7 Behold, I am coming quickly! **Hold fast** what you have, **that no one may take your crown**.

Isn't John saying that someone can steal our crown?

This is an idiom indicating that the are circumstances, people, situations in life that can distract us from our goal.

So He is speaking idiomatically here and saying not to let anything intervene in our pursuit of spiritual growth and maturity.

The principle here is that we should consistently live today in light of eternity. That is our motivation.

Once again, looking at vs. 12-13 and the **incentives** we are given to maintain in the realm of light:

12 He who overcomes, **I will make him a pillar**

that word **stylos**, as (post) a (post) a (column) (12), (post) a (column) (12), (post) a (column) (12)

**stylos** is used figuratively in the Scripture of any firm support. It is used for persons who have authority and influence in the church.

Colossians 2:1 (NABV)

1 And when (James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be **pillars**) presented the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

This is someone who has stability, and strength, a contributing force in the church.

This was an idiom that refers to people like Paul and Peter and others as **pillars** in the church.

in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name.

13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

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