

The Faithful Church

Revelation 3:7-13

Series: What Type of Church Are We?



The Seven Churches



The Seven Churches Historically

<i>Church</i>	<i>Meaning of name</i>	<i>Symbolizing</i>
Ephesus	desire	the first century (apostolic)
Smyrna	persecution/death	the period of persecution
Pergamum	thoroughly married	the age of Constantine
Thyatira	continual sacrifice	the Middle Ages
Sardis	those escaping	the Reformation era
Philadelphia	brotherly love	the modern missionary movement
Laodicea	the people ruling	the apostate church of the last days



Introduction

- The Author - He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David
- The Recipients – The church at Philadelphia – more particularly to the pastor
- Fault- None
- Philadelphia – Brotherly love



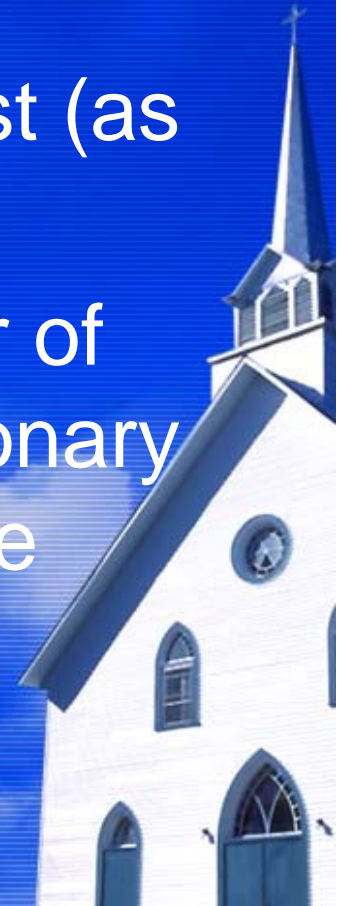
Introduction

- Philadelphia was the youngest of the seven cities, founded sometime after 189 b.c. either by King Eumenes of Pergamum or his brother, Attalus II, who succeeded him as king. In either case, the city derived its name from Attalus II's nickname *Philadelphus* ("brother lover"), which his loyalty to his brother Eumenes had earned him.



Introduction

- Though situated on an easily defensible site on an 800-foot-high hill overlooking an important road, Philadelphia was not founded primarily as a military outpost (as Thyatira had been).
- Its founders intended it to be a center of Greek culture and language, a missionary outpost for spreading Hellenism to the regions of Lydia and Phrygia.



Introduction

- In 17 AD a powerful earthquake rocked Philadelphia, along with Sardis and ten other nearby cities.
- The city's primary object of worship was the goddess Cybele—the same goddess worshiped at Ephesus as Artemis (Diana).



Revelation 3:8-13 (NASB)

8 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

9 'Behold, I will cause *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and *make them* know that I have loved you.



Revelation 3:8-13 (NASB)

10 'Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

11 'I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.



Revelation 3:8-13 (NASB)

12 'He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and 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 My new name.

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



I. The Act of Faithfulness

8 'I know your deeds. Behold,

- I have put before you an open door which no one can shut,
 - Faith opens doors
- because you have a little power,
 - Faith gives us strength
- and have kept My word,
- and have not denied My name.



2. The Blessings of Faithfulness

9 'Behold, I will cause *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and *make them* know that I have loved you.

The Philadelphia church's faithfulness would be rewarded by the salvation of some of the very Jews who were persecuting it.



3. The Hope of Faithfulness

9... I also will keep you from the hour of testing,

10...so that no one will take your crown.

11... I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore;

and I will write on him the name of My God,



Faithful?

The principle message in the sixth letter speaks prophetically of the Church's last opportunity to take the gospel to the uttermost part of the earth.

The door remains open as of this present hour.



Our Response?

The door is open to us as a church

As an individual

**He will give us the power and
strength to walk through**

