

The Church at

Philadelphia

the second of th

CHURCHES IN REVELATION

7" And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, '. . . 8 I know

your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it;

Revelation 3:7-13



Philadelphia

"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. Since you have kept my command to endure patiently,



Philadelphia

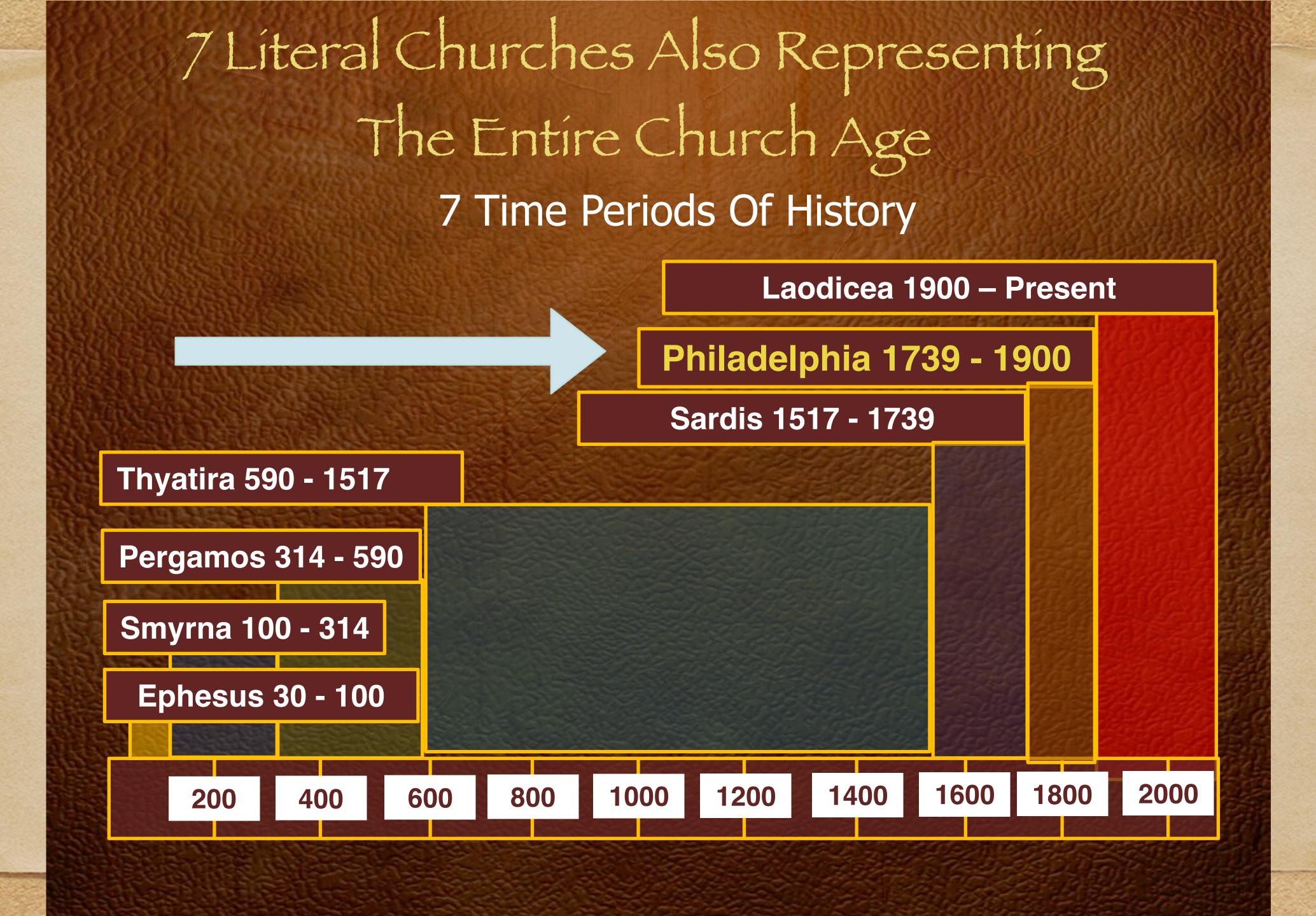
I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.





Revelation 1:11

"Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."



The Seven Churches of Revelation Philadelphia: Background

Philadelphia

The City

- Philadelphia was founded by King Eumenes in 189BC
- He named it to honor the love he had for his brother Attalus.
- On one side of the city land was so fertile that they grew grapes and produced wine.
- Behind the city were steep volcanic cliffs
- City Today: Alah-Shehir (city of god)

Philadelphia Name Means: Love of My Brother





"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17



- ◆The earthquake which devastated twelve cities in 17 A.D. was particularly destructive in Philadelphia, due to its being nearest the fault line.
- Rebuilt with the help of Tiberius.
- ◆Frequent shocks felt and the cities inhabitants lived in constant fear of being destroyed again.





Christ Identified

Revelation 3:7

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:
 He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:7 (NASV)

7 ". . . He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

Christ's Self Designation

- * He who is HOLY, title refers only to God.
 - ★ The Lord God is called "the Holy One of Israel" 25 times in Isaiah alone
 - ★ This identifies Him as absolutely sinless, absolutely unstained, unblemished, flawless. Jesus said I am He who is holy!
 - When Jesus said "I am he who is holy, he was saying "I am God!"



Revelation 4:8 (NASV)

8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come."



Mark 1:23-24 (NASV)

²³ Just then there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, ²⁴ saying, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!



John 6:68 (NASV)

68 Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:7 (NASV)

7 "... He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

Christ's Self Designation

- * He who is TRUE, -
 - alethinos, can also have the idea of genuine, authentic as opposed to that which is fake or unreal.
- * John 14:6
 Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.



1 John 5:20

And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:7 (NASV)

7 "... He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

Christ's Self Designation

- * He who has the key of David, "Key" implies authority over his kingdom
 - "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever."

2 Samuel 7:16



"Then I will set the key of the house of David on his shoulder, When he opens no one will shut, When he shuts no one will open.



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:7 (NASV)

7 "... He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

Christ's Self Designation

- * He who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens,
- ♦ The obedience and faithfulness of this church had produced an open door from Jesus



He Who Shuts & Opens

Matthew 16:19

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:8,10 (NASV)

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. 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.

- The Praise (vv. 8, 10)
- * "I know your deeds (your works)
- **♦** They had power
- ♦ They were obedient "Kept my Word"
- ♦ They were Loyal "Not Denied My Name"
- **♦** They kept the word of My Perseverance



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:9 (NASV)

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 Lord's Promise (vv. 9)

- * Their Vindication
 - ♦ Synagogue of SATAN will bow down
 - **Romans 2:28-29**

For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:10 (NASV)

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.

The Lord's Promise (vv. 9, 10)

- * "I also will keep you from the hour of trial"
 - ★ I Thessalonians 5:9

 For God has not destined us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:11 (NASV)

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

The Lord's Promise (v 11)

- * "I am coming quickly"
 - **♦** A Call to Persevere HOLD FAST what you have
 - Don't allow anyone to take your crown Our crowns do not refer to our salvation No one can take that, it has to do with our Rewards for Obediance.



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:12 (NASV)

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.

The Lord's Promise to the Overcomer

- * The one "who overcomes"
 - The worthy citizen of Philadelphia had a column in a pagan temple named for him.
 - But the faithful Christian actually becomes part of the temple in which the true and living God dwells

Ephesians 2:19-22

 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:12 (NASV)

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.

The Lord's Promise (vv. 9, 10)

- *"I will write on him the name of"
 - NOT three separate names A name having all three characteristics.
- ♦ Identification belonging to the Lord, -
- Resident of the city of God -
- Reservations in heaven where all things will be made new



"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write," Rev 3:17

Revelation 3:13 (NASV) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

- Obedience & Faithfulness are choices we make -
- If we want an Open Door with God Let's demonstrate power, obedience, loyalty and endurance
- Let's me known like Philadelphia For our love. They will know you are my disciples if you have love for one another.