

“Philadelphia: The Obedient and Steadfast Church” 9/02/18

Revelation 3:7-13

Sermon Series- “Jesus’ Message to the Seven Churches of Revelation”

Philadelphia- means brotherly love

Economic – City of wines, was gateway to three other countries. “Doorway”

Political – Roman city was rebuilt with tax free incentives after earthquake 17 AD

Religious – Worshipped god of wine, Dionysius. Mission city for Hellenism.

- A. The letter to the church contains the CORRESPONDENT’S TITLE
(Rev 1:18; Isaiah 22:21-22; 40:25; Luke 4:34; **13:24-28**; John 1:9; 14:6)
- B. The letter to the church contains Jesus’ COMMENDATION
He knows their works:
- 1) LITTLE POWER- (1 Cor 1:18-31; 2 Cor 10:9-10)
 - 2) OBEYED HIS WORD- They demonstrate their love (John 14:15, 21)
“If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15)
 - 3) NOT DENIED HIS NAME- They were bold in their daily witness
 - 4) Synagogue of Satan rebuked- (Isaiah 60:14; Zech 12:10)
- C. The letter to the church does not contain any CRITICISM
(see also Revelation 2:8-11 where there is none to Smyrna)
- D. The letter to the church contains Jesus’ COUNSEL
(1 Peter 1:4; James 1:12; 2 Tim 4:8; 1 Cor 9:25; 1 Peter 5:4; 1 Thess 2:19)
"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. (Rev 3:11)
- E. The letter to the church contains Jesus’ CLOSURE
(Ephesians 2:20; was named “NeoCaesarea” in 1st century; earthquakes)

“Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:5

Going Deeper *God wants us to be a pillar in His Church. Are we of those who keep His word in perseverance and trust in His promise?*

Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples