



GRACE  
BREVARD

To Enjoy and Express the Freeing Radical Love of Jesus

[BrevardChurch.org](http://BrevardChurch.org)



LAODICEA

PERGAMUM



SARDIS

SMYRNA



THE

LETTERS

OF REVELATION

EMPIRES AT WAR

REVELATION 3:7-13

PHILADELPHIA

*"RESTORATION"*

NOVEMBER 6

<sup>8b</sup> Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut.



The Philly  
Culture



The Philly  
Church



The Philly  
Connection



# Turkey

GALATIA

PERGAMUM

THYATIRA

SMYRNA

SARDIS

PHILADELPHIA

EPHESUS

LAODICEA

PATMOS

Rev  
3:7-13

Israel



# The Philadelphia Culture





# The Philadelphia Culture

- Invented coins
- Incredible Vineyards (Rome removed)
- Earthquakes
- Name Changes
- Patron God Dionysus (revelry)
- Honorary Temple Pillars
- Intersection of 3 countries and Gateway to the East



## Revelation 3:7-13

<sup>7</sup> “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

<sup>8</sup> “‘I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

<sup>9</sup> Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you.

<sup>10</sup> Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. <sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, 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 from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. <sup>13</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'



# The Philadelphia Church

Physically Crushing

*"pillars"*

Socially Crushing

*"have but little power"*

Religiously Crushing

*"Synagogue of Satan"*

*"not denied my name"*

*How do we deal with instability, vulnerability and trauma?*

# The Philadelphia Connection

## Physically Crushing

*When life seems to contradict Christ being loving and powerful*

- *Death & Disease*
- *Threats & War*
- *Sadness & Anxiety*
- *Broken Relationships*
- *Hunger & Poverty*



# The Philadelphia Connection

## Physically Crushing

*When life seems to contradict Christ being loving and powerful*

- *Death & Disease*
- *Threats & War*
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- *Hunger & Poverty*

## Socially Crushing

*When following Culture conflicts with following Christ.*

- *Sexually*
- *Financially*
- *Verbally*
- *Relationally*
- *Politically*

# The Philadelphia Connection

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## Religiously Crushing

*When following "Church" conflicts with following Christ.*

- *Lawfulness*
- *Lawlessness*
- *Morally Superior*
- *Christian Cannibalism*
- *Spiritual buffet*



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*When following "Church" conflicts with following Christ.*

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- *Lawlessness*
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***Where do you feel a crushing weight?***



<sup>10</sup> Because you have kept my word about **patient endurance**, I will keep you from (or “through/during”) the **hour of trial** that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.

<sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. **Hold fast** what you have,



***Hold Fast***

***Patient Endurance***

- Not melting in worldwide fear
  - Not melting into culture
  - Not melting into religiosity

*Hold Fast*

*Patient Endurance*

HOW?

<sup>7</sup> “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.’”

Who Jesus Is

Holy One  
*(Fully Set Apart)*

True One  
*(Fully Real)*

Key Holder  
*(Full-Life Giver)*



behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet,  
*and they will learn that I have loved you.*

*All Will Be Made Right*

**12 The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God.**





## *All Will Be Made New*

<sup>12b</sup> Never shall he go out of (the temple) 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 from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

All followers of Christ are pillars with three names written on us:

- 1) YHVH (Family)
- 2) New Jerusalem (Citizenship)
- 3) Jesus (King)



## Revelation 21

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new."

# Benediction

*A 4000 years old tradition of giving a corporate blessing over God's people.*

1 Timothy 1: 17

To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible,  
the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.