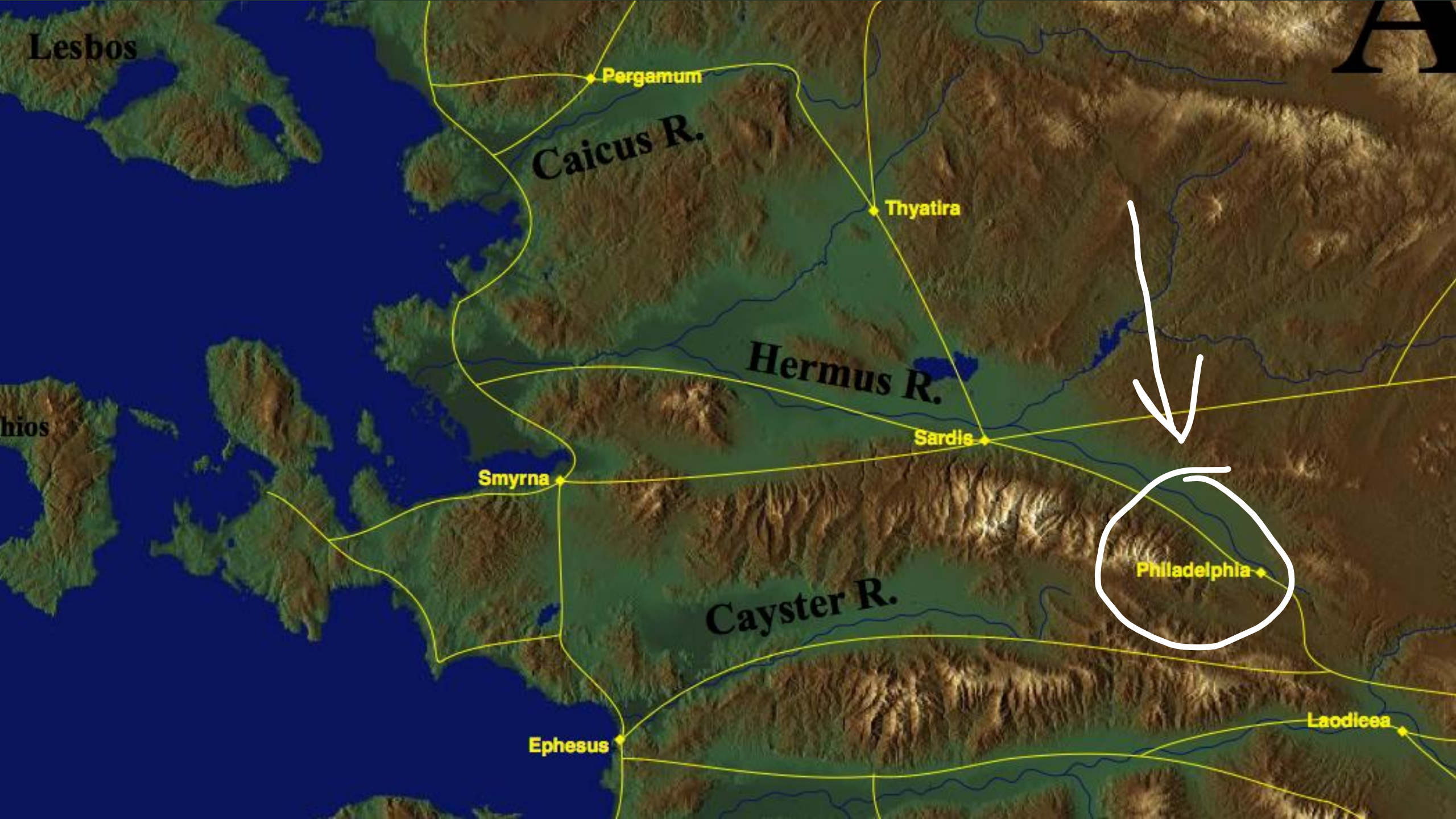


The Call to Overcome Weariness (Pt 1)

Revelation 3:7-13



Lesbos

Pergamum

Caicus R.

Thyatira

Hermus R.

Sardis

Smyrna

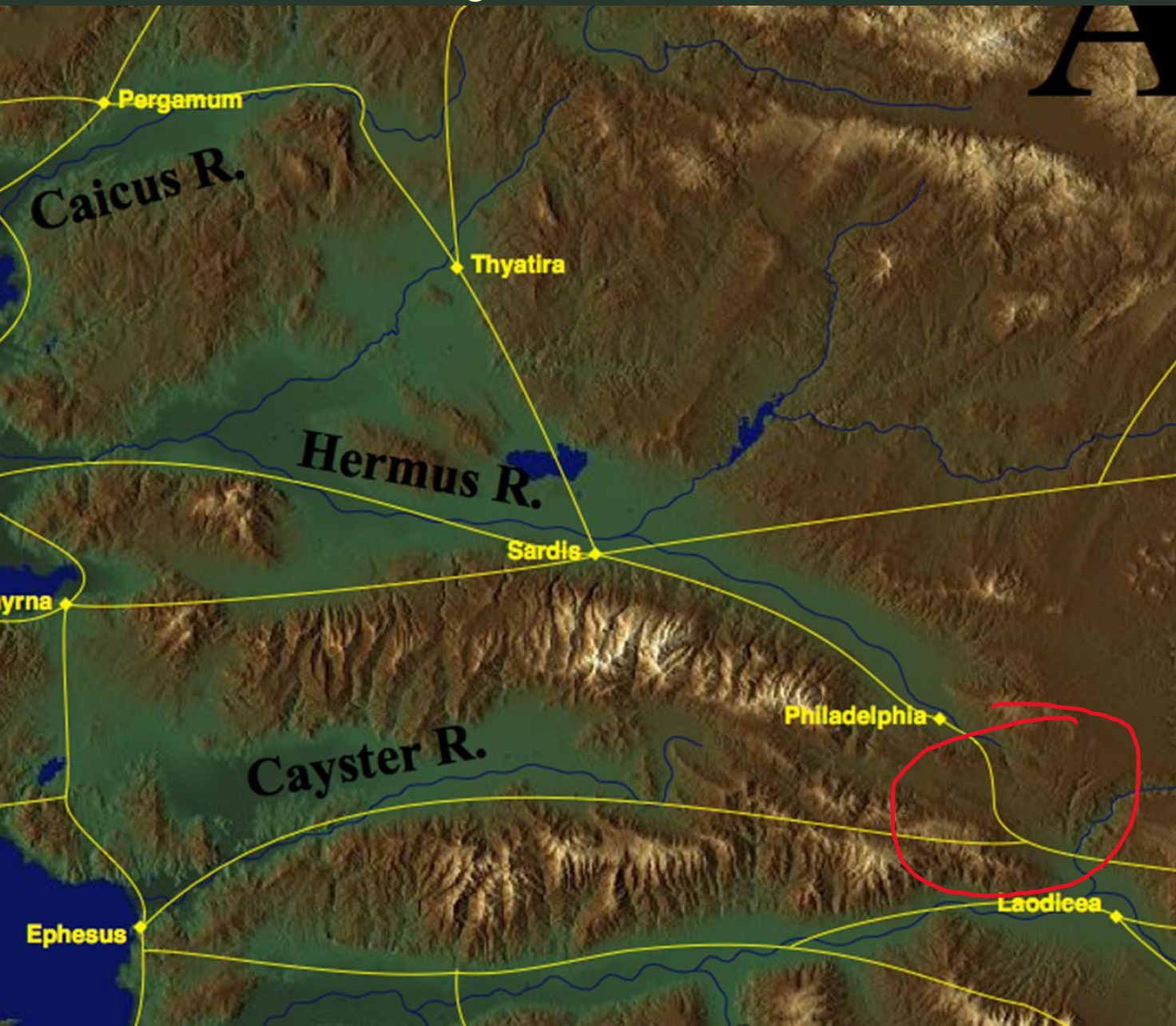
Cayster R.

Ephesus

Philadelphia

Laodicea

“Gateway to the East”





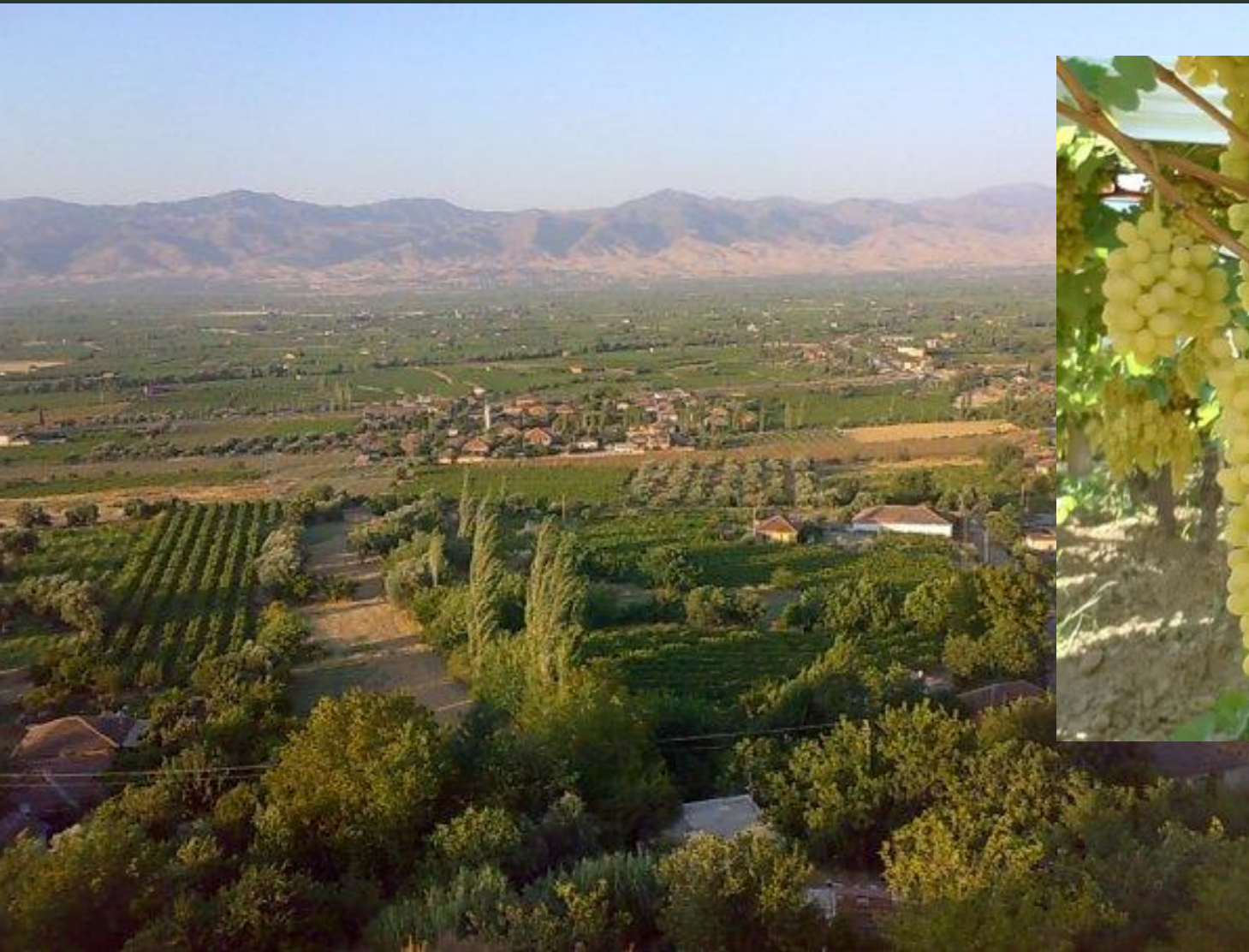
Temple & Theater



Earthquakes



Fertile Soil



The Call to Overcome Weariness (Pt 1)

Revelation 3:7-13

Matthew 10:34-39

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Big Idea- We draw strength to endure the cost of following Jesus by believing and remembering the promises of God.

- 1) A Relevant Description of Christ
- 2) Christ's Assessment of His Church
- 3) A Promised Reward

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Revelation 6:10

[The martyred saints] cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, **holy and true**, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Isaiah 40:25-26

“To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? Says the **Holy One**. Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name; by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power, not one is missing.”

Numbers 23:19

God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind.

Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Hebrews 6:17-19

So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which **it is impossible for God to lie**, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul...

Mark 1:24

“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are— **the Holy One of God.**”

John 6:68-69

Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that **you are the Holy One of God.**”

John 1:6-9

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

John 6:32-33

“Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the **true bread** from heaven. **For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.**”

John 15:1

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

Isaiah 22:22

And I will place on his shoulder **the key of the house of David**. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

John 14:6

“No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Big Idea- We draw strength to endure the cost of following Jesus by believing and remembering the promises of God.

- 1) A Relevant Description of Christ
- 2) Christ's Assessment of His Church**
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Colossians 4:3-4

Pray also for us, that **God may open** to us **a door** for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison— that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.

Acts 14:27

“They declared all that God had done with them, and how **God** had **opened a door** of faith to the Gentiles.”

LSB

3:8 **"Behold, I have given** before you an open door..."

3:9 **"Behold, I am giving** up those of the synagogue of Satan"

Romans 9:6-8

For **not all** who are descended from **Israel** **belong to Israel**, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” This means that it is **not the children of the flesh** who are the children of God, but the **children of the promise** are counted as offspring.”

Galatians 4:21-26, 28-29

Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. But the son of the slave was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise.

Galatians 4:21-26, 28-29

Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. Now **Hagar** is Mount Sinai in Arabia; **she corresponds to the present Jerusalem**, for she is in slavery with her children.

Galatians 4:21-26, 28-29

But the **Jerusalem above** is free, and **she is our mother...** Now you brothers, like **Isaac, are children of promise.** But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now.

Romans 2:28-29

For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter.

John 8:37-44

"I know that you are offspring of Abraham; yet you seek to kill me because my word finds no place in you. I speak of what I have seen with my Father, and you do what you have heard from your father.

John 8:37-44

They answered him, “**Abraham is our father.**” Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. You are doing the works your father did.” They said to him, “We were not born of sexual immorality. **We have one Father—even God.**”

John 8:37-44

Jesus said to them, **"If God were your Father, you would love me,** for I came from God and I am here. I came not of my own accord, but he sent me. Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. **You are of your father the devil,** and your will is to do your father's desires.

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession...

Matthew 8:10-12

“Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Romans 4:7-12

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

Is this blessing then only for the circumcised, or also for the uncircumcised?

Romans 4:7-12

For we say that faith was counted to Abraham as righteousness. How then was it counted to him? Was it before or after he had been circumcised? It was not after, but before he was circumcised. He received the sign of circumcision as a seal of the righteousness that he had by faith while he was still uncircumcised.

Romans 4:7-12

The purpose was to make him the **father of all who believe without being circumcised**, so that righteousness would be counted to them as well, and to make him the **father of the circumcised who are not merely circumcised but who also walk in the footsteps of the faith** that our father Abraham had before he was circumcised.

Isaiah 45:14

Thus says the LORD: "The wealth of Egypt and the merchandise of Cush, and the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over to you and be yours; they shall follow you; they shall come over in chains and **bow down to you**. They will plead with you, saying: '**Surely God is in you, and there is no other, no god besides him.**'"

Isaiah 60:14

The sons of those who afflicted you shall come **bending low to you**, and all who despised you shall **bow down** at your feet; they shall call you the **City of the LORD**, the **Zion of the Holy One of Israel**.

Romans 11:11, 13-14

Salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous...

Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them."