

Philadelphia, the Missionary Church

Rev 3: 7-13

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- We are now going to study the 6th letter given to the churches
 - Following a chronological framework of church history
 - The church of Philadelphia would be from 1800 to the present day
 - England was the primary catalyst for starting the missionary/evangelical movement
 - Adoniram Judson, C.T.Studd, Eric Liddell, Hudson Taylor, David Livingstone etc.....

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- This movement found its way into the U.S.
 - Johnathan Edwards, John and Charles Wesley, Francis Asbury, Harry Hoosier, D.L Moody....
 - The Cane Ridge revival of Kentucky
 - Azusa Street revival in California
 - Missionaries sent out throughout the world....
- Rev 3: 7-13
 - We must note that this letter does not contain any of the attributes listed in Rev 1
 - Stars, swords, Spirits, candlesticks etc...

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- Rather the text starts out with the most basic of doctrines for any church
 - Holiness and truth “He who is holy, who is true”
 - Psa 33: 4...For the word of the LORD *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth. (KJV)
 - Unfortunately, many of our churches today have forsaken both attributes...(holiness and truth)
 - The result....Jer 9: 13-16.....
 - Effect of Wordless preaching and Islam
 - Consider....the state of the U.S. today???

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- “Who has the Key of David?”
 - What we see here is “authority given”.
 - To open and to shut
 - Herein we see the redemptive plan of God unfold
 - Abraham....”in thy seed will all the nations of the earth be blessed”
 - It is not Ishmael (Gen 17: 18-21)
 - Jacob..”from Judah, Shiloh will come.” (Gen 49: 10)

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- Isaiah 7: 14....Redeemer would be born of a virgin
- Micah...The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5: 2)
- Isaiah 53....the Messiah will be rejected and suffer
- Zech 9: 9...."Your King will come riding on the foal of a donkey"
- Zech 11: 13..."He will be betrayed of 30 pieces of silver

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- But now the One with authority....
 - “Every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord” (Phil 2: 11)
 - Rev 19: 16...And on His robe and on His thigh, He has a name written, “KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.”
 - Matt 24: 30...and then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.
 - Habakkuk 2: 14...“For the earth will be filled, with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”
- Knowing these things generates a heart for evangelism.

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- “Who opens and no one will shut”
 - Jn 10: 9...I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.
 - Rev 22: 17...And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.
- “And no one can open”
 - Rom 3: 19-23
- I know your deeds
 - “for you have little strength” (KJV)
 - Not in spiritual strength but few in number

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- “And have kept My Word”
 - This does not mean to protect it
 - Rather it mean to “obey from the heart”
 - This phrase is used 7 times in Revelation
 - Rev 1:3; 3: 8;10; 12: 17; 14: 12; 22: 7; 9
 - Note this article.....
- “And have not denied My Name”
 - Matt 1: 18-21
 - When we speak the name of Jesus, we proclaim that He and He alone suffered and died for our salvation.
 - He alone is our Saviour

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- Vs 9..."to know that I have loved you"
 - Only two times this phrase is used in Rev
 - Rev 3: 9; Rev 3: 19
 - John 15: 13...Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.
 - I John 4: 16-19...And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world.
There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.
We love because He first loved us