

“The Committed Church”  
Revelation 3:7-13

~ READ TEXT ~

AS YOU SETTLE IN...

- Turn to the book of (Rev. 3:7-13)

~ LET'S PRAY ~

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled today's message: **“The Committed Church”**

~ INTRO ~

A chicken & a pig are walking around the farm one morning...

- When the chicken said let's get something to eat...
  - The pig said, ok... what shall we eat?

The chicken said, how about some breakfast – with a big smile!

- The pig paused for a minute & said what are you thinking?
  - The chicken quickly replied eggs & bacon...

The pig was quite again for a minute & then said no way!!!

- The chicken said why not Piggly what's wrong???

The pig replied... we'll for you it's just a **contribution**...

- But for me it's total **commitment!**

TOTAL COMMITMENT... THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA...

- The **committed** church / the **faithful** church / the church in **revival!**

THIS IS THE...

- Sixth letter out of the seven...
  - And this letter is filled with commendation!
    - A positive letter, to a faithful church.

~ THE HISTORY ~

PHILADELPHIA...

- Was a City considered to be the gateway to the East.
  - In modern day we know city as Alasehir...
    - With a population of about 53,000 +/- people (2020).

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- This city was the **smallest & youngest** city, out of the seven letters.

PHILADELPHIA...

- Was in an area that enjoyed vineyards & agricultural products...
  - BUT, it was also plagued with earthquakes!
    - So it was a dangerous & lacked long-term security.

ONE MORE THING ABOUT THIS CITY...

- The name: Philadelphia...
  - Refers to **“brotherly love.”**
- The City was named after King Attalus Philadelphus.

**~ STUDY ~**

OK... (v.7)

JESUS SPEAKS FROM TWO THINGS:

- 1) His character = *Holy & True*
  - 2) His authority = He has the *key to open & close doors*
- a) *“He who is holy”*
- When talking to the previous churches Jesus addressed the deficit!
    - Not so with this church.
      - He speaks to their character...
        - His own character seen in them – *holiness*.

**(1 Peter 1:15-16) NLT**

**(Eph. 2:10) NLT**

MAY WE COME TO UNDERSTAND...

- *Holiness* is not a state or a condition we’re working toward!
  - Some say when I get this right, then I’ll serve Jesus – NOT!
- We’re not trying to achieve a good standing before God!
  - It’s a state into which God (IN GRACE) calls us to.
    - And by faith... we walk it out.

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▪ (Gal. 5:16) NLT.

b) *“He who is true”*

- True = genuine or authentic...
  - Jesus is authentic!
  
- And so too was the church in Philadelphia!
  - It was not a weekend show for them...
    - They were totally sold out!

c) *“He who has the key of David”*

- This takes us back to (Isa 22:19-22) NKJV
  - When Shebna was replaced by Eliakim as Treasurer in Israel
    - The *“KEY”* represents authority & control.
      - Authority was given based on faithfulness.
        - (One was put down & one lifted up.)

(Ps 75:7) NLT

*“It is God alone who judges; He decides who will rise and who will fall.”*

HERE’S A NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLE...

- (Luke 16:5-10) NKJV

**POINT BEING:**

- Jesus has the **KEY** and opens & shuts doors...
  - For salvation & service!
  
- And everything in our lives...
  - Comes from His resources.
    - We’re just managers.

NARROWING THIS DOWN...

- To 2020 & our lives (right now)...
  - There’s an opportunity to advance the gospel...
    - But many people are not onboard...
      - Because they are wasting His goods!

NOW (v.8) HE COMMENDS THIS CHURCH.

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*Strength* = (Greek *dunamis*) means power.

- The term is used for weak people getting stronger or being revived!
  - AND as we return to the Lord we gain strength!

(Isa. 40:29) NLT

*“He gives power to the weak and to strength to the powerless.”*

(v.9)

THERE WERE PEOPLE...

- Claiming to be religious (false Jews as Jesus says)...
  - And they tried to hinder the work of this church!

**\*MAYBE YOU’VE SEEN THIS\***

- People get mad at a pastor and then do everything they can...
  - To hinder the ministry of a fellowship.

- 1) I’ll take my money elsewhere
- 2) I’ll get people to stop going to that church
- 3) I’ll share all my disgruntled stories
- 4) I’ll show why that church must be stopped

MEANWHILE...

- They forget that ALL these behaviors...
  - Are what Jesus addressed in Saul on the Damascus Road
    - (Acts 9:4-5) NKJV

IT’S JESUS’ CHURCH GANG!

- And you can’t stop it from going forward!
  - No matter how disgruntled OR wronged... you have been!

**HERE’S THE POINT:**

- Satan is the accuser and he often uses religious people to help him...
  - Knowingly or unknowingly!
    - (v.9) *false Jews – synagogue of Satan*

**~ IN CLOSING ~**

(vv.10-13) READ...

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(v.10)

*“keep you from the hour of trial”*

- Supports the Pretribulation Rapture view...
  - Meaning God will remove His church before...
    - The 7-Year Tribulation Period.

(v.11)

SO... THE COMING OF JESUS...

- Is the reason for total commitment!
  - And Jesus encourages them to hang on!

(v.12)

Ownership = God

Citizenship = Heaven

- Permeance not subject to destruction!

**(1 John 5:4-5) NKJV**

**~ LETS PRAY ~**