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The Key Of David - Philadelphia

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and live with the Preacher.

THE KEY OF DAVID - PHILADELPHIA

Rev. 3:7-13*

Virtues, graces, problems & weaknesses.

INT: Seven churches of Asia rep. total-picture of the churches to come, to the end of the world. Five had problems: Ephesus-Pergamos-Thyatira-Sardis-Laodicea. Two were blameless: Smyrna & Philadelphia. Usual pattern of Lord's remarks to each: 1st: Commendation. 2nd: Condemnation. 3rd: Remedy or solution. 4th: Promises: *Rewards*. Philadelphia: Only two: Commend...& promises. Refreshing to know the Lord's church can exist without major problems within.

I. CITY OF PHILADELPHIA. *20 mi. S.E. of Sardis. #5.*

1. Youngest of the 7 cities. Built BC 141. BC
2. Builder: Attalus II, king of Pergamos (159-138 for his brother: Umenes. Loved him very much.
3. Name: Philadelphos means "one who loves his brother" or "city of brotherly love."
4. Purpose: To disseminate Greek Culture. Mission!
5. Name changes:

AD 17 destroyed by earthquake and rebuilt by Tiberius, Roman Emperor. NEO-Caesarea or "New City of Caesar."

LATER, Emperor Ves-pasian was kind to them so they called it "Flavia"=his family name.

6. TODAY: Has 3,000 houses, 10,000 Turks and is known as Allah Shehr or "City of God."

*Greeks
Romans
Christians
Turks*

II. JOHN INTRODUCES THE LORD TO PHILADELPHIA. V.7.

1. He that is HOLY: Sacred, separated from sin & consecrated to God. God's loving Son.
2. He that is TRUE: Real, genuine, ideal.
3. He hath the KEY OF DAVID:
 - a. Jesus was the Son of David. Isa. 9:7. King.
 - b. David's key: His power, authority, will, or control.
 - c. Church is extension of David's kingdom as prophesied in Isa. 22:22. Jesus=ruler!!
 - d. Mary told Jesus receive David's throne. Lk. 1:31-33

III. JESUS COMMENDED THE BRETHREN AT PHILADELPHIA.

1. V. 8. WORKS: Evang. Edification. Benevolence.
2. " LITTLE STRENGTH: Few in number or low in wealth and influence. SOME STRENGTH!

3. Hast kept my WORD. Outnumbered, but prevailed.
4. Hast not DENIED my name. Threatened with death or harm, but stayed faithful throughout!
Any person can: I Corinthians 10:13. Rev.2:10.

IV. SOME THINGS JESUS HAD DONE OR WOULD DO.

- (7) 1. Use his key (authority) to open doors which none can close. Matt. 28:18-20. 16:18-19.
2. Closed doors which none could open.
III. Know vacant lot today where stood a powerful congregation once. Doors closed!
- (8) 3. Opened a door for them, which none could close (Field of evangelism and they went out.)
4. Make Synagogue of Satan bow down before these worthy saints some day. V. 9. Matt. 19:28.
5. Keep Philadelphia from the hour of temptation, or the Great Persecution to come. V. 10.
OR: from great earthquakes & disasters.

V. PROMISES JESUS MADE TO PHILADELPHIA CHRISTIANS.

1. V. 11. Hold fast and none can take "crown."
Meant: Garland wreath; sign of victory.
2. V. 12. Make you Pillars in Spr. Temple and nothing can harm you anymore.
- (12) 3. ". Write the NAME OF GOD upon:
Slave-branding. Belong to the true God.
- (Omission) 4. " Write the name of the CITY OF GOD on him.
Custom: Great Patroit had new pillar put in temple with his name, father's name and his home-city on it. Great honor!!!
5. " MY NEW NAME. Rev. 2:17 Pergamos offered a new name. Unknown except to holder.
CHRISTIAN! REDEEMED!!! SAVED!! SON OF GOD!

INV: V. 13 A CURIOUS INVITATION

He that hath an ear, let him hear!!!!
Question: Don't all have ears??? No!
Example: Mark 8:18. Not listening.

Jesus offers sinners a new life, new name, new hope and new destiny. B-R-C-B.

Offers to RECEIVE wayward Christians who come home also. R-P

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