

# LETTERS TO THE CHURCH

## Part 6 - Philadelphia



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**Rev. 3:7** And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

**Rev. 3:8** I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

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- Christ says that He is holy which means that He loves righteousness. He says that He is true, which means that He detests lies. And He states that He has the key of David or the right of passage to father God. *1 John 3:19 And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.*
- He is also saying that we cannot hide from Him or harbor secret feelings. He is the judge and He represents truth. Therefore, if we are to be in Him and expect Him to open the door for us, we must be righteous and true to Him. *2 Cor. 13:5 Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?*
- Philadelphia was weakened by persecution, yet they kept the Word of God and never denied His name. *2 Cor. 4:9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;*



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Rev. 3:9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Rev. 3:10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

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- The synagogue of Satan is used here to describe those that refute Christ as the messiah. This is also a reference to those that claim to be Jews by keeping the law instead of embracing the sacrifice of Jesus as payment for all sins. *James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*

- Those that refuse Christ's way will bow before all that reign with Christ and they will see just how much He loves us. Every knee is going to bow, whether they believed during their lifetime or they accept the truth during their judgment! *Phil. 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;*

- Because of the faithfulness of this church, they are well prepared for the time of trial that the whole world will experience. Christ said He will sustain them through tribulations. *Heb. 3:6 But Christ as a son over his own house; whose house are we, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm unto the end.*



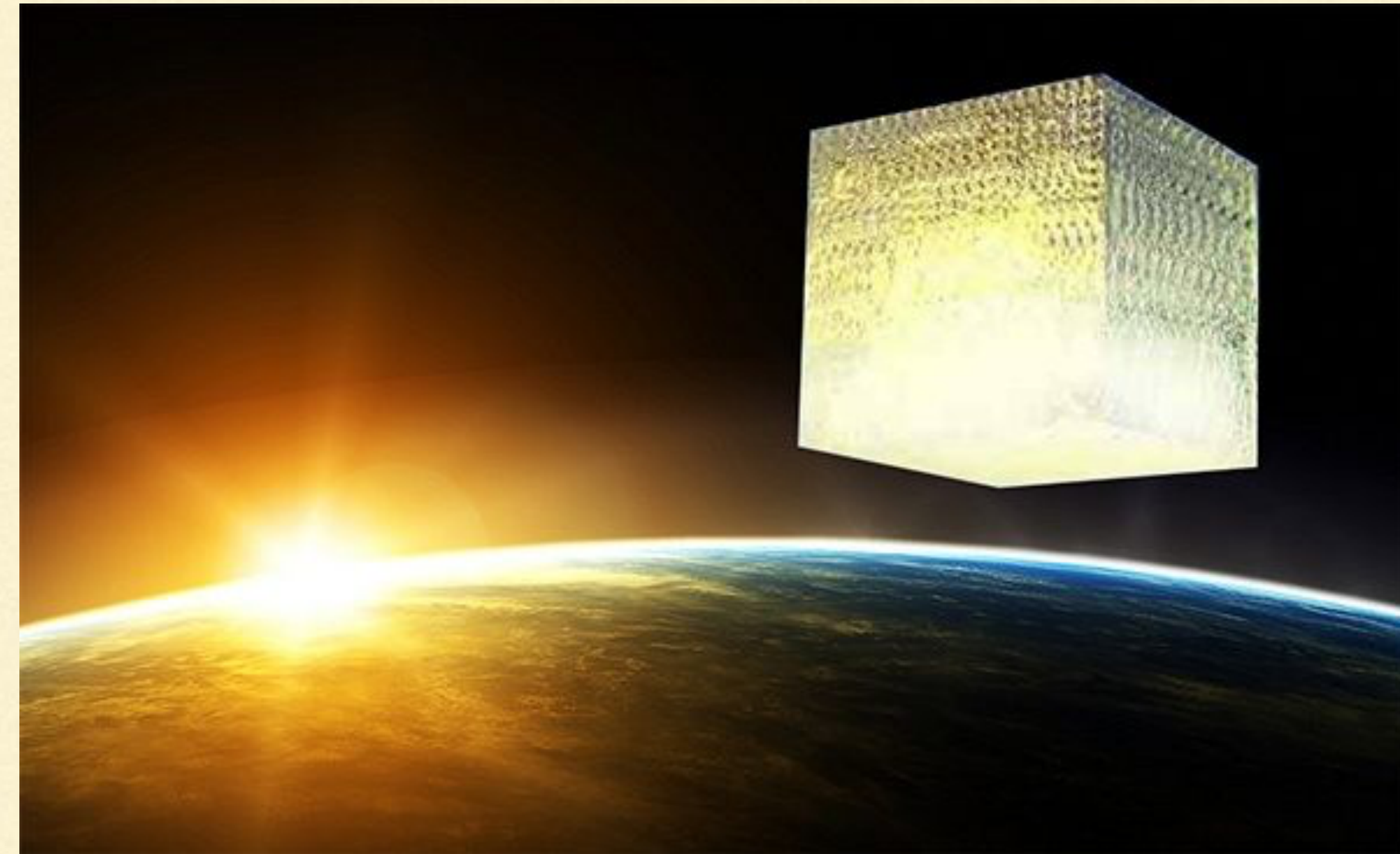
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Rev. 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Rev. 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

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- Christ tells them to hold fast to what they have so no one can take it away. This statement was made in reference to their faith or belief in His return. This declaration debunks eternal security because Christ would not have told them to hold on unless it was possible for them to let it go. *Luke 9:62 And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*
- Those that overcome will be a pillar of God's great temple, meaning they will be a permanent fixture, set in place, to never be removed. Just as we are the church on earth, we will be the furnishings of the temple of God in eternity. *John 10:28 And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.*
- The new city where we will dwell; after this life, is New Jerusalem. This four square city will be our residence as we carry the new name of Christ. Every tongue, creed, and nationality will be together in this great city and will reign with Christ forever. *Rev. 21:24 And the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it.*



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The world around us is being controlled by the evil one. The devil seems to have his claws in everything surrounding us. As believers, we are battling for our morality and biblical values. We are fighting for our lives to stand on God's Word and live according to His way. But just as the church of Philadelphia stood strong, we must stand strong. Though they were weary or had little strength, Christ encouraged them to hold on! Although many of us are weary and seem to be in a constant uphill battle, we must stay strong and continue to fight.

We must overcome the issues that plague us so we can stop the issues that we cause our loved ones to suffer. We must line up with the truth of God's Word. We must do things God's way. How can we be the church that serves God without doing things His way? The church of Philadelphia stood against the synagogue of Satan, false doctrines, and held fast to what was right. This stance honors the One that is holy and true, who has the key to eternal life. If we are obedient to Him, He will reward us during the time of trial with eternal life in His great city, New Jerusalem.

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*Rev. 3:13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

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