



## Revelation 3:11-13

Randy Duke 05/05/24

## The Church at Philadelphia

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***“He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.”***  
- Revelation 3:12

Class notes, info & Directory posted to [www.SJCalvaryBerean.com](http://www.SJCalvaryBerean.com) or scan the QR code



- i. Today is Yom Hashoah: Holocaust Remembrance Day (May 5<sup>th</sup>)
  - a. For more info, check out <https://tinyurl.com/2v7v8ak9>
- ii. **Got a friend or acquaintance you want to refer to Calvary's Chinese Ministry?**
  - a. Contact Pastor William at (408) 876-7119 or [huangwm0101@gmail.com](mailto:huangwm0101@gmail.com)
- iii. **New Christian Movie "Sight" - releasing May 24**
  - a. 20% discount at <https://www.angel.com/tickets/sight>
  - b. Promo code: "Sight"
- iv. **Understanding The Times: Jan Markell interviews Pastor Mark Henry. Theology can drive current events. Parts of the church, thanks to false theology, are okay with Israel Derangement Syndrome as the church is the new Israel. Church reformers have intensified the carnage over the years. Where are churches with the truth? Also discussed:**
  - a. Satan can grow subtle theological differences into substantially different beliefs, dividing us
  - b. Is the Book of Revelation (& the Bible as a whole) allegorical (stories, similes) or literal?
  - c. If only allegorical, how can we be sure we have the correct interpretation?
  - d. What is wrong with 'replacement theology'?
  - e. **OliveTreeViews:** <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> **YouTube:** <https://tinyurl.com/3bp8x9zc>
- v. **Amir Tsarfati Weekly Update:** <https://tinyurl.com/5wsvf3ej>
- vi. **Curtis Bowers Weekly Agenda:** "Hospitals Are No Longer Safe"- <https://tinyurl.com/4b4fpk75>
  - a. Documentary: "Pagan America: The Decline of Christianity & the Dark Age to come"  
<https://tinyurl.com/2xrbmc97>
- vii. **ICC considers labeling Netanyahu/IDF Soldiers as War Criminals** - <https://tinyurl.com/3vvh9jra>
- viii. **Israel's Post-War Vision for Gaza** - <https://www.jpost.com/israel-hamas-war/article-799756>
- ix. **Anyone Else Remember How 'Sky-Net' started in "Terminator 2"? (AI in F-16s)** - <https://tinyurl.com/yzvcaf9>

## II. **Revelation 3:7-13 - A Study of The church at Philadelphia (Conclusion)**

- a. **Quick Comment on the "Love" Philadelphia was named after**
  - i. There were at least 4 Greek words to describe LOVE
  - ii. More than in Greek, English uses context to define the definition of a word
  - iii. I can love my wife, I can love my kids, I can love this class, and I can love God... but we use one word (love) to describe this feeling & commitment.
  - iv. In Greek, "love" is described in 4 words: the 1<sup>st</sup>, *eros*, refers to romantic or sexual love. We get our word *erotic* from it & it's not used in the NT.
  - v. The second is *storge*, refers to familial love (parent:child; sibling; etc.). It also isn't used in the NT, but the negative term *astorgoi* ("unloving") is found in [2 Timothy 3:3](#), & *astorgous* ("without natural affection") in [Romans 1:31](#).
  - vi. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Greek word we translate as "love" is *philia*, where Philadelphia draws its name from, refers to friendship & comradery.
  - vii. This word is often translated as "friend" (one who is loved) in the New Testament.
  - viii. Finally, *agape* is used to speak of God's love that He has for the world and that Christians are supposed to emulate.
  - ix. This is the "love" most commonly used in the New Testament.
  - x. This explains Jesus' & Peter's dialog in John 21:15-17

**b. Comments on the 4 Greek words translated 'Love' (continued)**

- i. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Greek word we translate as "love" is [philia](#), where Philadelphia draws its name from, refers to friendship & comradery.
- ii. This word is often translated as "friend" (one who is loved) in the New Testament.
- iii. Finally, [agape](#) is used to speak of God's love that He has for the world and that Christians are supposed to emulate.
- iv. This is the "love" most commonly used in the New Testament.
- v. This explains Jesus' & Peter's dialog in John 21:15-17

**c. What Jesus wanted the church of Philadelphia to do (verse 11)**

- i. *"Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown".*
- ii. Recognize Jesus is coming 'quickly', & they must prepare for His coming.
- iii. *"The expression 'quickly' is to be understood as something which is sudden and unexpected, not \_\_\_\_\_."* (Dr. John Walvoord)
- iv. *"Hold fast what you have":* The church at Philadelphia (and WE) must not depart from our solid foundation, as described in [Revelation 3:8](#):
- v. Prior verses – Recognize Evangelistic Opportunities; Keep our reliance on God; Stay FAITHFUL;
- vi. *"Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown"*
- vii. This was not a crown of royalty, given because of royal birth. This was a crown of victory. Jesus encouraged His saints to finish their course with victory, to "play the second half" just as strongly as they "played the first half."
- viii. *"Never forget that the man most likely to steal your crown is yourself. 'Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life' ([Proverbs 4:23](#)). You are in no greater danger from anyone or anything than from yourself." ('The Seven Churches of Revelation', Vance Havner)*

**d. Christ's promise of reward to the Church in Philadelphia ... & us (vs 12)**

- i. *"He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name."*
- ii. Pillars are pictures of strength, stability, and dignified beauty. When a building collapsed in an earthquake, all that remained were the pillars. Jesus offers us this same strength, to remain standing in Him.
- iii. *"... He shall go out no more":* The persevering overcomer has a place of permanence & stability with God, in contrast to an uncertain place in this world.
- iv. *"I will write on him the name of My God... I will write on him My new name"*
- v. These names are marks of identification because they show [who we belong to](#). They are marks of intimacy, because they show we are privileged to know Him in ways others are not.
- vi. In the ancient world, having a special inscribed pillar added to one of the temples sometimes honored a faithful city servant or distinguished priest. "Philadelphia honored its illustrious sons by putting their names on the pillars of its temples, so that all who came to worship might see and remember." (Barclay's Bible Commentary)

**e. As with all the churches, Christ ends His letter to Philadelphia with an exhortation**

- i. *"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."*
- ii. *He who has an ear, let him hear:* We all want to hear the praise & encouragement Jesus gave to the church at Philadelphia.
- iii. **If we will be like this church, we must:**
- iv. **stay on the right foundation (Jesus' name and Jesus' word)**
- v. **We must also depend on the proper source of strength (Jesus, not ourselves).**
- vi.