

# Philadelphia – Lowly Yet Luminous

## Revelation 3:7-13

**Introduction:** The sixth church to receive a message from the risen Christ was Philadelphia. This church, doubtless, was the greatest church since the days of the Apostles!

### A. Christ's Appearance to the Church

Christ is pictured as One Who is holy and true. He holds the keys of David and sovereignly opens and closes doors.

### B. Characteristics of the City

Philadelphia means *brotherly love*. This city was founded for the purpose of propagating the Greek language and culture.

### C. Characteristics of the Church

The church had a heart for truth and missions. It can be compared both with ancient Israel returning from Captivity and with modern Israel returning to the Promised Land in 1948. Prophetically this church represents the Missionary Church from 1750 AD to 1900 AD.

### D. Compliment to the Church

Christ compliments the church for its little strength and its perseverance in keeping God's Word and Name.

### E. Complaint to the Church

Christ does not issue a complaint against Philadelphia.

### F. Counsel to the Church

Christ counsels the church to hold fast. Christ promises to keep them from the tribulation that is to come upon the earth.

### G. Covenant with the Church

Christ promises to make the faithful as pillars in the temple upon which He would write a new name.



*Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God – Romans 10:17*