

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

THE COURSE OF THIS PRESENT AGE -- IS PRESENTED IN A SECOND MAJOR PASSAGE FOUND IN [REV 7-3]

IN MATTHEW 13 -- THIS PRESENT AGE IS SURVEYED IN ITS RELATION TO THE KINGDOM PROGRAM -- IN [REV 2-3] -- THE REFERENCE IS TO -- THE PROGRAM OF THE CHURCH --

THE TIME PERIOD HERE ~~NOTED~~ NOTED IN [CH 1: 19] IS "THINGS" PAST PRESENT -- FUTURE .

① WHAT THOU HAST SEEN -- [VS 12-16 IN CH 1]

② THE THINGS THAT ARE [CH 2-3] REFER TO THE SEVERAL -- SUCCESSIVE -- "BROADLY DEFINED" FEATURES OF THE PROFESSING BELIEF OF THE CHURCH -- AND OF CHRIST'S RELATION TO THEM UNTIL THE CHURCHES FINAL REJECTION -- WHICH HAS NOT YET OCCURRED

③ THE THINGS THAT ARE ABOUT

TO BE - AFTER THESE "THINGS" - THE
CHURCH AGE (PROGRAM) -

IN THIS THIRD DIVISION - THE
WORLD - AND THE JEWS - WITH
THE CORRUPT AND APOSTATE
CHURCH - IS THAT TO BE "SPUED"
"OUT" - ARE INCLUDE - AND ARE
A PART OF - THIS STRICTLY -
- PROPHETIC PART - OF THE
BOOK [CH 4 - 22:5] THE -
- APOCALYPSE -

HERE IS THE KEY FOR THE -
INTERPRETATION - AT THE DOOR (3:20)
"BEHOLD - I STAND AT THE DOOR"

IT WOULD SEEM EVIDENT - THAT JOHN
IN THE WRITING TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES
IS DEPICTING - THIS PRESENT AGE -
FROM THE CHURCHES BEGINNING AT
PENTECOST - TO THE JUDGEMENT OF
THE APOSTATE CHURCH - PRIOR TO
THE SECOND COMING - [REV 19:10-21]

THUS

THE PERIOD OF TIME - COVERED IN
THESE CHAPTERS 4-19 - WOULD
PARALLEL THE PERIOD COVERED
BY - MATTHEW 13.

— A THREEFOLD PURPOSE —

JOHN IS WRITING TO SEVEN LOCAL CONGREGATIONS. — EACH LETTER IS TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE INDIVIDUAL CONGREGATION.

- ① THESE LETTERS WERE PRIMARILY INTENDED FOR THE CONGREGATION TO WHICH THEY ARE ~~ADDRESSED~~ ADDRESSED.

AND DEAL WITH ACTUAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF EACH CHURCH PERIOD.

- ② THESE LETTERS WOULD REVEAL THE VARIOUS KINDS OF PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE ASSEMBLIES THROUGH "THE PRESENT AGE" WHICH IS THE CHURCH AGE — HISTORICALLY UP TO THE RAPTURE.

THESE SEVEN CHURCHES REPRESENT SEVEN VARIOUS KINDS AND VARIETIES OF CHRISTIANS — BOTH TRUE AND FALSE.

IT IS OF THESE PROFESSING CHRISTIANS — THAT THE WHOLE CHURCH IS MADE UP OF.

THUS — WE FIND — THE SEVEN CHURCHES — IN EVERY CHURCH

GIVING THESE LETTERS A DIRECTNESS OF APPLICATION - TO OURSELVES.

WHEN TAKEN TOGETHER - THEY EXHIBIT EVERY PHASE OF CHRISTIAN SOCIETY.

THIS ENABLES THE LORD TO GIVE - COMFORT, ADVICE, EXHORTATION, WARNING, AND THREATENING - FROM WHICH - SOMETHING COULD BE FOUND TO ADDRESS - ANY POSSIBLE SITUATION OR CIRCUMSTANCE OF HIS PEOPLE - TILL THE END OF THE AGE.

THUS

THERE CAN BE A SPIRITUAL APPLICATION ALONG WITH - A HISTORICAL-INTERPRETATION

③ THERE IS A PROPHECIC REVELATION - AS TO - "THE COURSE" - OF THE AGE IN THESE LETTERS.

THUS

THEY REVEAL THE SUCCESSIVE - PREDOMINANT "PHASES" - THROUGH WHICH THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH - WAS TO PASS - FROM THE TIME JOHN SAW THE VISION - UNTIL THE LORD CAME.

THE NAMES OF THE CHURCHES - THEMSELVES SUGGEST THE ORDER OF SUCCESSION - AS IT DEVELOPS

WITHIN THE AGE.

EPHESUS MEANS: ^a BELOVED OR MAYBE
"RELAXATION"

SMYRNA MEANS: "MYRRH" OR "BITTERNESS"

PERGAMOS MEANS: "HIGH TOWER" OR
"THOROUGHLY MARRIED"

THYATIRA MEANS: "PEREPTUAL SACRIFICE"
OR "CONTINUAL OFFERING"

SARDIS MEANS: "THOSE ESCAPING" OR
"RENOVATION"

PHILADELPHIA MEANS: "BROTHERLY LOVE"

LAODICEA MEANS: "THE PEOPLE RULING"
OR "SPEAKING" OR
"JUDGMENT OF THE
PEOPLE"

THUS WE SEE THE FLOW OF THE
AGE OF THE CHURCH

AT THE CLOSE OF THE APOSTOLIC
PERIOD "ECCLESIASTICAL"
[PERTAINING TO THE CHURCH OR
THE CLERGY ~ CHURCHLY ~ OR

CLERICAL] PRETENSION -- AND A
DEPARTURE FROM "FIRST LOVE" --

[REVELATION CH 2-3]

EPHESUS 2:1-7 -- SMYRNA 2:8-11 --

PERGAMOS 2:12-17.

THE HISTORY OF THESE FIRST-THREE
CHURCHES IS "CONSECUTIVE."

THE DEPARTURE FROM THE FIRST
LOVE -- AT THE CLOSE OF THE APOSTOLIC
PERIOD -- EPHESUS 2:1-7.

→ ~~THE~~ WE SEE THE MARTYR PERIOD
WHICH BRINGS DOWN TO THE CLOSE ~~OF~~
~~THE~~ OF THE TENTH AND LAST
PERSECUTION -- UNDER "DI-O-CLE'TIAN."

THE DIOCLE'TIAN PERSECUTION WAS
THE LAST AND MOST SEVERE OF THE
CHRISTIANE -- BY THE ROMAN EMPIRE --
IN 303 AD -- PERGAMOS 2:12-17.

IN THE SMYRNA AGE 2:8-11 --
DECREASING SPIRITUALLY AND INCREASING
WORLDLINESS -- WENT HAND IN HAND,
FROM THE ACCESSION IN ROME -- AND
HIS PUBLIC PATRONAGE OF CHRISTIANITY
-- ON TO THE SEVENTH CENTURY.

THE HISTORY OF THE REMAINING
4 -- OVERLAPS AND PRACTICALLY
RUNS -- CONCURRENTLY -- TO THE END
-- THE LORD'S COMING.

THYATIRA 2:18-29 -- SARDIS 3:1-6 --
 PHILADELPHIA 3:7-13 -- AND FINALLY
 LADICEN 3:14-22 --

THYATIRA, THE PAPAL CHURCH -- WHICH
 IS SATAN'S MASTERPIECE ON EARTH --
 -- IS WITNESSED BY THE ASSUMPTION
 OF -- UNIVERSAL AUTHORITY -- AND
 CRUEL PERSECUTION OF THE --
 -- SAINTS OF GOD.

ITS EVIL REIGN COVERS -- "THE
 MIDDLE AGES" -- THE MORAL --
 CHARACTERISTICS OF WHICH HAVE
 WELL BEEN TERMED "DARK" --
 POPERY -- [THE DOCTRINES AND
 CEREMONIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE
 POPE -- OR PAPAL SYSTEM] WHICH
 IS -- ROMAN CATHOLICISM -- AND
 WHICH BLIGHTS EVERYTHING IT TOUCHES.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE CHURCH
 MAY BE IN "THYATIRA" -- TO ITS LOGICAL
 CONCLUSION --

-- BARNHOUSE SAYS --
 IN EPHESUS -- THE BELIEVERS LOST
 THEIR FIRST LOVE -- AND BECAME
 OCCUPIED WITH OTHER THINGS --
 THEY DEVELOPED A CLASS WHICH
 WAS -- A SORT OF "CLERGY"

THE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL WAS
ENTRUSTED TO THEM.

THESE PREACHERS LOWERED THE
DOCTRINE TO SUIT THE COLDNESS
OF THEIR HEARERS.

BY THE TIME OF SMYRNA - FROM
"NERO" TO 300 AD - THE DOCTRINE OF
TRUE GRACE HAD BEEN DILUTED WITH
LEGALISM - UNTIL - THE SYNAGOGUE
OF SATAN "WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE
CHURCH" - LOW LEVELS OF CONDUCT
BECAME COMMON -

ONE SUDDEN EVENT - TOOK THE
CHURCH OUT OF ITS PROPER PLACE OF
- "BEING HATE" - BUT "A FAITHFUL WITNESS"
- INTO A PLACE OF - PAMPERED -
PRIVILEGE - IN THE WORLD -

THE PARAGRAPH TO THE CHURCH OF
PERGAMOS - DESCRIBES CHANGE AND
WARNS - THE CHURCH (vs 14)

THE VERY WORD - "PERGAMOS" HAS IN
IT THE SAME ROOT FROM WE GET OUR
ENGLISH WORDS - "BIGAMY" AND "POLYGAMY" -
- "IT IS THE WORD FOR MARRIAGE" -

"PERGAMOS"

"SIGNIFIES A MIXED MARRIAGE" - IN
THE MOST OBJECTIONABLE SENSE OF
THE WORD -

"WHY"

BECAUSE IT IS THE MARRIAGE OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH OF THE
- LORD JESUS CHRIST - WITH THE WORLD.

THIS IS

IN DEFIANCE OF THE DISTINCT -
COMMAND - "WHAT AGREEMENT HATH
THE TEMPLE OF GOD WITH IDOLS" (~~1 COR 6:16~~)
(1 COR 6:16)

HOW DID THE WORLD COME TO FALL
IN LOVE WITH THE CHURCH?

IN THE BEGINNING OF THE FORTH
CENTURY - THE MONARCH OF THE
ROMAN EMPIRE DIED - WITHOUT THE
QUESTION OF SUCCESSION SETTLED.

ARMIES THE LEADER OF EAST AND WEST
ARMIES CAME TOGETHER NEAR A RIVER
IN NORTHERN ITALY - CALLED THE
MILVIAN BRIDGE. THE TWO ARMIES WAITED
FOR DAY BREAK -

THE WESTERN GENERAL - MADE A
VOW THAT NIGHT - IF HE WON THE BATTLE
HE WOULD BECOME A CHRISTIAN.

"CONSTANTINE" MADE A BARGAIN
WITH SOME "SUPER-NATURAL POWER"
TO JOIN THE CHURCH ORGANIZATION -
- IF HE WON THE BATTLE -

HE WON AND FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH
 THE BARGAIN -- THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED
 INDICATE THAT THE BARGAIN WAS MADE
 WITH THE PRINCE OF THIS WORLD --
 THE GOD OF THIS AGE -- SATAN -- THE SPIRIT
 WHO BLINDS THE MINDS OF MANKIND --
THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE --

"CONSTANTINE" WAS CONVERTED --
 BUT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT -- HE
WAS BORN AGAIN --

THE CHURCH IN HIDING -- CAME
 OUT OF THE "CATACOMBS" -- AND INSTEAD
 OF BEING -- PERSECUTED -- THEY FOUND
 THEMSELVES POPULAR.

"THE RAGS OF 'PERSECUTION' -- GAVE
 WAY -- TO NEW SOFTER GARMENTS --
 THE CHURCH BEGAN TO FEEL SILK UPON ITS
FLIESH" -- (BARNHOUSE) --

THE PRIESTS OF THE PAGAN TEMPLES
 HAD BEEN PAID BY THE EMPIRE -- BUT --
 NOW -- "CAESAR WAS A CHRISTIAN" -- AND
 THE PRIESTS OF MARS AND VENUS -- HURRIED
 TO THEIR BAPTISMS --

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY --
 -- OF THE CHURCH -- SALARIES WERE PAID
TO CHRISTIAN WORKERS --

- TRADITION HAS IT THAT CONSTANTINE'S MOTHER - WAS THE FIRST TO GIVE "MONEY" FOR THE "ERECTION" OF A CHURCH BUILDING -

THUS

[THE PERGAMOS CHURCH WAS WHEN THE CHURCH WAS MARRIED TO THE WORLD -

AND

WE SEE "WHY" "THE THYATIRA" CHURCH FROM ~~THE TIME OF THE~~ THE TIME OF THE CHURCH OF ROMAN - TO THE 1500'S WAS IN A "WORLDLY ALLIANCE" - GREAT EXTENDED GROWTH - WITH PAPAL DOMINATION - AND DOCTRINAL CORRUPTION - BROUGHT ABOUT EMPTY PROFESSION - AND THE RISE OF THE STATE CHURCH - CATHOLICISM - SEZEBEL

AS WE MOVE TO - THE CHURCH OF SARDIS - WHICH MEANS;

THOSE "ESCAPING" OR "RENOVATION" COMES;

"THE REFORMATION PERIOD"

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVIL SEEMS TO HAVE CEASED - THE WORK OF SATAN HAD PROGRESSED THROUGHOUT THE TIME OF THE FIRST FOUR CHURCHES - WHEN FINALLY - IN THE "WE FIND "THE DEPTHS OF SATAN" - NOTHING CAN GO BEYOND THIS DEPTH -

BUT GOD IS NOT ^uFRUSTRATED^u FOR --
 ~ HIS PURPOSES WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED --
 SO

IN THE LETTER TO SARDIS -- WE SEE --
 -- A NEW COURSE -- IN THE FLOW OF --
 -- SPIRITUAL THOUGHT --

FOR THE FIRST TIME ... WE FIND
 THERE IS NOTHING SAID ABOUT --
 "COMMENDATION" -- "I KNOW THY WORKS,
 THAT THOU HAST A NAME THAT THOU
 LIVEST, -- AND ART DEAD" (3:1)

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH IS --
 DESCRIBED -- IN A SINGLE STATEMENT
 -- "SOULLESS PROFESSION"

NOTE: IT WAS NOT A ^uSCANDALOUS^u
 WICKEDNESS -- THAT IS SEEN. BUT
 YOU MIGHT SAY: A DECENT DEATH --
 THEY

HAD A FORM OF BEING ALIVE -- BUT
 THE HEART WAS GONE. YOU MIGHT
 SAY: THEY PROFESSED CHRIST IN
 WORD -- BUT IGNORED IN DEED --

CORRECT CREEDS -- WITH RESPECTABLE
 CONDUCT -- BUT AFFECTION FOR
 CHRIST WERE GONE --

- THEY HELD HIS NAME AND READ HIS WORD AND ACCEPTED THE TRUTH - BUT CHRIST WAS FORGOTTEN -

- SARDIS HAD BECOME A DECENT PART OF THE WORLD - BUT WAS BARREN AND LIFELESS TOWARD GOD - AND FIT IN WITH THE WORLD -

WHAT THE LORD SAYS TO THE CHURCH AT SARDIS IS HE IS THE ONE WHO HAS THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD AND THE SEVEN STARS - (CH 1: 4, 16, 20) - THERE IS A REASSERTION THAT THE LORD JESUS - WISHELS TO CONTROL HIS CHURCH BY THE EFFECTIVE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT -

IN SARDIS THE CHURCH REACHES A PLACE - WITHIN THE LORD JESUS ONCE MORE AS THE ONE WHO HOLDS THE CHURCHES - AND DIRECTS THEM BY HIS SPIRIT - THIS IS SIGNIFICANT - SINCE IN (2: 24) - THYATIRA - WE SEE THE "DEPTH OF SATAN" -

SARDIS

A NEW BEGINNING - THE REFORMATION - IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

- THE REFORMATION WAS GOD'S WORK -

IT WAS THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT... HOWEVER... HOW SHORT LIVE THIS WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT REALLY WAS -

BARNHOUSE:

LUTHER AND CALVIN WITH THE LESSER REFORMERS... MOVED FORTH ON A HIGH PLANE... BUT THE DEVIL'S BIRDS... FLOCKED INTO THE BRANCHES OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION... (AS THEY HAD COME IN WITH CONSTANTINE)... BEFORE

THE REFORMATION HAD BEEN AND WAS A WORK OF GOD...

THE REFORMATION BEGAN IN GERMANY IN 1517 BECAUSE OF AN "AUGUSTINIAN" MONK NAMED MARTIN LUTHER... HE WROTE HIS 95 THESIS... PROTESTING CATHOLICS SELLING OF INDULGENCES.

CATHOLICS BELIEVED SALVATION COULD BE FOUND BY COMPLETING... CERTAIN ACTIONS... LIKE RECOGNIZING THE SACRAMENT... SUCH AS BAPTISM AND COMMUNION... AND CONFESSION TO A PRIEST.

LUTHER INITIALLY WAS ONLY TRYING TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE WITHIN THE CHURCH... BUT WAS EXCOMMUNICATED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN 1521 -

WHEN HE REFUSED TO RETRACT HIS WRITINGS - OTHERS BECAME OUTSPOKEN ALSO AND JOINED WITH HIM

LUTHER'S ABILITY TO EXPLAIN HIS OPINIONS - CAUSED HIM TO BE KNOWN AS THE ONE WHO STARTED THE -
- REFORMATION -

- LUTHER TRANSLATED THE BIBLE INTO GERMAN - FOR THE COMMON MAN TO READ -

- THIS PROTESTANTS EXPRESSED THEIR STAND THAT THE CHURCH SHOULD NOT HAVE AUTHORITY OVER A PERSON'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD - EACH PERSON WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIMSELF - SO - A SPIRITUAL MOVEMENT BEGAN -

THUS

THE REFORMATION SPREAD THROUGHOUT EUROPE - MANY PEOPLE BEING ABLE TO READ THE BIBLE FOR THEMSELVES - SAW THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY - TO GAIN MORE CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVES - MADE A BREAK FROM AUTHORITY - LEADING TO A MASS POPULARITY OF - FREETHINKING - IDEAS.

UPRISING BEGAN TO TAKE PLACE

AS PEOPLE BEGAN TO FEEL FREEDOM FROM THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHURCH — THEY BEGAN TO SEEK FREEDOM FROM THE OPPRESSION OF THEIR LANDLORDS AND NOBLES —

PEASANTS BEGAN TO REVOLT AGAINST THEIR OPPRESSORS — CLAIMING THE "SAME DIVINE RIGHT" THAT GAVE LUTHER THE RIGHT TO REBEL —

SOME PEASANTS BUILT ARMIES TO SUPPORT THEM — THIS IS KNOWN AS THE "PEASANT WAR" — (1524-1525)

MARTIN LUTHER — WHO INSPIRED THE BREAK FROM THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH — OPPOSED THE PEASANT WAR — THE PEASANTS WERE CRUSHED IN A BATTLE AT FRANKENHAUSEN — MAY 15, 1525 —

THUS

THE SLOWING DOWN OF THE — REFORMATION — GERMAN NOBLES FOUND THIS OPPORTUNITY TAILORED TO THEIR DESIRES — AND USED IT TO SEIZE THE LANDS OF THE CHURCH — THUS THE MIGHTY ADVANCE — WHICH THE REFORMATION MADE — WAS ARRESTED —

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH THE
 "ANGEBURG CONFSSION" WHICH IS
 THE PRIMARY CONFSSION OF THE
 LUTHERAN CHURCH -- OF 1530 --
 WITH THE 39 ARTICLES -- OR -- THE
 HEIDBERG CONFSSION OF 1563 --
 AND SO FORTH -- BUT -- THROUGH
 OUT THE CHRISTENDOM AGE -- THE
GOSPEL WAS PLACED IN A COFFIN
WAY

(FORMAL ORTHODOXY TOO OFTEN --
 CHARACTERIZES THE STERILITY OF
 CHRISTIAN CHURCH -- IN
 THIS PRESENT AGE --)

TAKE NOTE:

THE MANNER OF HEARING OF THE
 GOSPLE -- REFERS TO THE DOCTRINE
 OF CHRIST. -- [ROM 10:17]

"FAITH COMES BY
 HEARING AND HEARING BY THE WORD
 OF GOD"

IN THE SARDIS CHURCH AGE --
 THE CHURCH RECEIVED THE WHOLE
 BIBLE -- THE BIBLE HAD BEEN --
 OBSCURED DURING THE DARK AGES
 NOW

THE REFORMATION HAD BROUGHT
 THE WHOLE BIBLE -- THE WHOLE

MESSAGE OF GOD INTO THE LANGUAGE
OF THE COMMON PEOPLE -- NOW
-- THEY NEEDED TO BECOME --
-- VIGILANT --

THE REFORMATION WAS GOD'S
INTERVENTION IN "GRACE" AND "POWER"
TO CRIPPLE PAPAL AUTHORITY AND
INTRODUCE INTO EUROPE THE LIGHT
WHICH FOR YEARS HAD BEEN BURNING
WITH LESS BRILLIANCY --

PROTESTANTISM WITH ITS DIVISIONS
AND DEADNESS -- SHOWS CLEARLY ENOUGH
HOW

FAR SHORT IT COMES FROM GOD'S IDEAL
OF THE CHURCH AND CHRISTIANITY --

ANOTHER

REFORMATION -- EQUALLY -- THE WORK OF
GOD -- HAS ITS BEGINNING OF THE 19TH
CENTURY --

-- THE PHILADELPHIA LETTER --

(3:7-13) BROTHER LOVE -- THE TRUE
CHURCH OF THE LAST DAYS -- "THE PEARL"

OUT OF THE LIVING DEATH OF SARDIS --
FLOW TWO STREAMS -- PHILADELPHIA --
-- IN WHICH THERE IS "NOTHING" TO REBUKE
AND LADICIA -- IN WHICH THERE IS
"NOTHING" TO BE ~~REBUKE~~ PRAISED

CHRIST BEGINS WITH TWO -
 ATTRIBUTES - WHICH SHOW ~~HIM~~ HIM
 TO BE VERY GOD - ONE WHO IS "HOLY"
 AND "TRUE" -

[JOHN 5:20] AND WE KNOW THAT
 THE SON OF GOD ^{IS} HAS COME - AND HAS
 GIVEN US AN "UNDERSTANDING" - THAT
 WE ~~MAY~~ KNOW HIM THAT IS "TRUE"
 EVEN IN HIS SON - JESUS CHRIST -
 - THIS IS THE "TRUE" GOD - AND ETERNAL
 LIFE -

ALSO, THE ONE WHO HAS THE KEY
 OF DAVID -

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE KEY
 OF DAVID IS MADE PLAIN - IT IS THE
 LORDSHIP OF THE SON OF DAVID -
 OVER HIS HOUSE -

AFTER A TIME LIKE SARDIS -
 WHERE THERE IS NOTHING BUT -
 - NOMINAL CHRISTIANITY - THE LORD
 HIMSELF SHALL TAKE OVER THE
 AUTHORITY -

HE NOW OPENS A DOOR OF ~~DELIVERANCE~~
 DELIVERANCE - AND IT CANNOT BE
 CLOSED -

AN HOUR OF TESTING WAS ABOUT
 TO COME - UPON THE WORLD -
 THE TRIBULATION -

THE PHILADELPHIA CHURCH SHOULD
AND WILL BE DELIVERED OUT OF
IT -

THE AUTHORITY OF THE LORD JESUS
CHRIST - WILL OPEN A DOOR - AND
BY HIS OWN POWER - WILL SEE TO IT
- THAT THOSE [PHILADELPHIA] WHO
WERE OF HIS OWN - SHOULD NOT -
- PASS THROUGH THE GREAT -
- TRIBULATION -

- THE RALLYING CENTER IN SARDIS
- WAS THE CHURCH RATHER THAN CHRIST
- HERE - THE LAST DAYS - IS IS CHRIST
RATHER THAN THE CHURCH -

"THE LORD REVEALS HIMSELF"
- I KNOW THY WORKS - THOU HAST
"A LITTLE STRENGTH" - YOU HAVE
KEPT MY WORD - YOU HAVE NOT
DENIED MY NAME. (V58)

BECAUSE

THOU HAST KEPT THE WORD OF MY
PATIENCE - (V510) (EXPECTED ENDURANCE)

- I WILL KEEP THESE FROM THE HOUR
OF TEMPTATION - (V510) (TESTING)

BEHOLD

I COME QUICKLY - "HOLD FAST"