

AUGUST 7, 2022

CHURCH OF CHRIST



*1002 Clairmont Avenue, Cambridge, Ohio 43725
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Web Site: www.cambridgechurchofchrist.com

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.

Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

“...the churches of Christ salute you” (Romans 16:16)

CHURCH OF CHRIST AT PHILADELPHIA

INTRODUCTION: Rev. 3:7-13

1. Named for its founder, the king of Pergamum; Attalus II Philadelphus.
2. Not as large or prosperous as others but was located on trade route to larger cities. Fertile ground; known for wine production. Many magnificent temples, public buildings; “Little Athens”; Built on fault line—destroyed 17 AD.

I. THE COUNSELOR (3:7).

A. His Character

1. He is Holy.
 - a. “The Holy One” (6:10; Isa. 40:25; Hab. 3:3).
 - b. By this designation, affirms His deity, thus, cannot tolerate sin—thus, evildoers will be punished.
2. He is True
 - a. Lit. “the True One”, real, genuine
 - b. Philadelphia filled w/ false gods; thus, assured them the genuineness of their devotion to Christ.

B. His Official Position: “Has the Key of David...”

1. Context: Isa. 22:15-25 ...
2. Ultimate fulfillment in Christ. Having the key=authority, cf. 1:8.

II. THE COMMENDATION (3:8).

A. The Open Door and Little Strength.

1. “Open door” in NT=opportunities, usually from evangelizing
 - a. Based upon authority/power of Christ (cf. 7)
 - b. Acts 14:27; 1 Cor. 16:8-9; 2 Cor. 2:12; Col. 4:3).
2. They had a “little strength”-
 - a. Perhaps, due to small number; scarcity of ability/ opportunity; their perception by society— “despite your little strength, you are trying”.
 - b. Not strong enough to open the door, but enough to keep it open.

B. The Kept Word and Name.

1. Apparently, a time in the past when their faith severely tested, likely pressured to deny Christ and confess Caesar, but refused to do so.
2. **Q**: How could they with their “little strength”? **A**: Relied on the Lord! (Isa. 40:29; 2 Cor. 10:9-10; cf. Heb. 11:34).

III. THE CHASTENING (none given).

IV. THE COUNSEL (3:11).

A. The Promise of the Lord’s Coming.

1. The 2nd Coming at end of time: always imminent (**Jas. 5:7-9**). OR...
2. A temporal “coming” during their lifetime, **EX**: as AD 70 was.

- B. Hold on to what you have.
 - 1. His name, His word, His patience, His promise to return
 - 2. So that no one takes your victory crown.
 - a. Faithful Christians have a crown promised (2 Tim. 4:8).
 - b. Jesus used the figure of a treasure stolen by a thief (Mt. 6:19-20) to emphasize that the crown (salvation) can be lost

V. THE CHALLENGE (3:9-10, 12-13).

- A. A Promise (9).
 - 1. Because of their perseverance under persecution, Jesus promises them complete vindication.
 - 2. The Jews doing Satan's work will realize that the Christians, which they despise, are the ones God really loves, and will idolize them.
- B. Protection (10): because of faithfulness, Christ assures them of His sustaining grace during the coming, increased.
- C. Pillars in the Temple of God (12).
 - 1. Pillars
 - a. Connotes strength—some buildings have pillars; some individual described as pillars— In NT times pillars erected to honor individuals whose names were engraved thereon.
 - b. These Christians, though weak physically, would be pillars of strength in the church.
 - 2. Names written—these Christian pillars would have written on them God's name and habitation, and Christ's "new name".
 - a. Jerusalem had been destroyed in AD 70, but Christians could anticipate the Jerusalem emanating from above.
 - b. Christ's "new name"??? no idea what it is, but there is scarcely a greater promise given to contemplate than being emblazoned w/ such a name!!!!
- D. Hear and Heed (13).

CONCLUSION:

- 1. The church of the open door—we should look for doors the Lord has opened unto us.
- 2. God expects no more from us than we are able; but He expects that we do all we are able.
 - A. Some have philosophy, "since I can do little, I will do nothing"
 - B. This church, rather, was like the woman Jesus commended in Mark 14:8, when He said, "She hath done what she could".
- 3. No promise of freedom from adversity; do have all the survival tools necessary cf. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:3.

Welcome! To our visitors! We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: The church of Christ at Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13).

PM: Abraham's Ultimate Test (Genesis 22:1-8).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Linda Steele** has been moved to room 131 at *Astoria*.
- **Helena Tewksbury** is now at *Cardinal Place* in room 125.
- After 11 years of chemo treatments every three weeks, **Sharon Pugh, wife of Charles Pugh**, is now cancer-free.
- **Terry Varner** is recovering from pneumonia at home in Moundsville, WV.
- There will be a **POTLUCK** after morning services on August 14th. **Phil and Darlene Greer** will be visiting with us that day.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ Please inform **John** of any changes to the prayer list, or directory.
- ❖ Remember our library.

AM Study	AM Worship	PM Worship	Wed.	Contribution (Budget)	
39	58	38	31	\$1600	(\$2,420)

<p><u>IN OUR PRAYERS:</u> Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Carol Mitchell, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley.</p>	<p><u>SHUT-INS:</u> Debbie Jones, Nancy Love, Randy Yost</p>
<p><u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS:</u> Debra Bates-Phillabaum, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Rachell Cook (Angela Herald's friend), Tiffany Endly (Jerri Mackie's niece), Bob Henthorn (Laura Jamiel's dad), Trudy Kerby, Colleen Kiester (Mo Smith's sister), Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), Tim Potts (Joyce Starrett's nephew), Kellie Price (Richard Mayo's cousin), Addy Reed, Rodney Reeves (Erica Cunningham's father), John Rockhold, Wilma Roe, Sidney Suttles (Diann Bachmann's friend), Bob & Marge Watson, Ken Wiley, Ukraine and remember to pray for one another.</p>	