

**A Church Approved by God: Be Obedient  
Philadelphia  
Revelation 3:7-13**

I. The City: Philadelphia

1. Philadelphia means one who loves his brother.
2. Called little Athens and gateway to the east.
3. Was a rich farming region.
4. Known for volcanoes and hot springs.
5. The main god was Dionysus.

II. The Lord: Holy, true, and sovereign

Holy- sinless, perfect, set apart

Mark 1:24 - "What do we have to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are, the Holy One of God."

John 6:69 - Simon Peter says, "We have believed and come to know that You are the Holy One of God."

1 Peter 1:15 - "But the Holy One who called you says be holy yourselves in all your behavior."

True- Ultimate reality, genuine, final authority, and example

John 14:6 - "I am the way, the truth, and the life and no one comes to the Father except through Me "

Revelation 6:9-11

Sovereign- Causing and allowing everything for Himself and His people.

Colossians 1:16-18 – “For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him....in Him all things hold together...He will come to have first place in everything.”

Romans 8:28 – “And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

1 Corinthians 16:8-9 – “I will remain in Ephesus until Pentecost; for a wide door for effective service has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.”

Colossians 4:3-4 – “...praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.”

III. The Encouragement: I see your ministry, power, obedience, allegiance, and endurance.

IV. The Caution: Hold fast to what you have.

V. His Promises: His abundance, protection, security, and approval.