



# The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

## Bible Course

## Acts to Revelation

## Lesson 73

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Read Revelation 3:7-13*

The church of Philadelphia was blessed with God's favor. Philadelphia was 20 miles SE of Sardis on an important trade route. It was nearly destroyed by a volcano during Jesus' teen years, but now was entirely rebuilt. The small Christian church receives no reproof, is more esteemed than Smyrna (which received sympathy), and continued to the 19th century.



1. What made this church special? These things saith he that is \_\_\_\_\_, he that is \_\_\_\_\_, he that hath the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, he that \_\_\_\_\_ and no man \_\_\_\_\_; and \_\_\_\_\_, and no man \_\_\_\_\_. There is nothing in the church itself that made them special. The passage above speaks of the holiness, truthfulness, and power of Christ. Christ took the place of unworthy sinners and made them special – His Bride.
2. What fruits were evident? I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an \_\_\_\_\_, and no man can shut it. (The open door of service, of bringing Christ's message to others) List other times this phrase is used:
  - a. Acts 14:27....how he had \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith to the Gentiles.
  - b. I Corinthians 16:9 ... For a great \_\_\_\_\_ and effectual is \_\_\_\_\_ unto me.

- c. II Corinthians 2:12 ... When I came to Troas to preach Christ's gospel, and a \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ unto me of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- d. Colossians 4:3 ... Withal praying also for us, that God would \_\_\_\_\_ unto us a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, to speak the mystery of Christ.
3. For thou hast a little \_\_\_\_\_. In self God's people remain broken, weak, disappointed in how little they use the open door. (Rev. 3:8)
4. And hast kept my \_\_\_\_\_, and hast not denied my name. God's people are called to obedience in conversation and lifestyle.
5. Christ gives promises to encourage this church in Philadelphia.
- a. I will make them (enemies) \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ before thy feet (v. 9). Even the world will respect those that hold their position. Sometimes the very people who reject God's people respect them inside and will come to them for advice in their troubled times.
- b. I will also keep thee from the hour of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10). Christ's continued presence goes with His people.
- c. Him that overcometh will I make a \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of my \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12). Even though God's people have little strength of their own, Christ is their strength.
- d. I will \_\_\_\_\_ upon him the \_\_\_\_\_ of my \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 12). They will be given three names: name of my God, the holy one, the name of the city of God (one city, one people, no divisions), and Christ's new name (unknown).

6. What lesson can we gain from the message to the church in Philadelphia? \_\_\_\_\_

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Read Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea was located 40 miles southeast of Philadelphia. It was known as a place of hot springs (knows that lukewarm springs are not good), medicine, soft black wool for garments, and wealthy bankers and businessmen. In 60 A.D. Laodicea was destroyed by an earthquake. The city spurned the offer of assistance because of their self-sufficiency. By 90 A.D. the church was infected with self-complacency, self-sufficiency, and self-righteousness. Laodicea receives no word of praise, but rather receives the strongest warnings of the seven churches.



7. I know thy works, that thou art neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_: I would that thou wert \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_. They had lost their Christ-centered zeal.
8. So then because thou art \_\_\_\_\_, and neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor \_\_\_\_\_, I will \_\_\_\_\_ thee out of my mouth.

Christ’s disgust was because of their lukewarmness. Half-hearted religion lacks zeal even though the right things are done. There is no hungry searching of the Scriptures. Lukewarm religion is an insult to Christ. He came to suffer and die and we take His blood for granted. Lukewarmness also affects the reputation of Christ in this world so Christ may withdraw from a church because it damages His name since the world judges by what they see in the church.

9. Christ’s remedy is, “I counsel thee to
- \_\_\_\_\_ (exchange) of me \_\_\_\_\_ tried in the \_\_\_\_\_, that thou mayest be \_\_\_\_\_;
  - and \_\_\_\_\_ raiment, that thou mayest be clothed...
  - and anoint thine \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_, that thou mayest see.
  - (This was a marketplace type city where goods were exchanged. Exchange artificial riches and sins for righteousness, holiness of me.) See also Isaiah 55:

“Ho, every one that \_\_\_\_\_, come ye to the  
\_\_\_\_\_, and he that hath no  
\_\_\_\_\_, come ye, \_\_\_\_\_ and eat;  
yea, come, buy \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ without \_\_\_\_\_ and  
without \_\_\_\_\_.”

10. “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and  
\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, I will come in to him,  
and will sup with him and he with me. To him that \_\_\_\_\_ will I  
grant to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ in my  
\_\_\_\_\_.” Christ is knocking at the door of the militant church  
(our hearts). By the Spirit’s power, pray to be a willing follower of Christ. He says to  
you, “Follow me” (Matthew 9:9). Will you forsake all and follow Him? To nominal  
members, the greatest sin is the rejection (unbelief) of a knocking Savior.

11. What lesson can we gain from the message to the church in Laodicea? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
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Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

### **Meditation**

If Christ be freely offered to all men, then it is plain that all who live and die without accepting Christ shall meet with the doom of those who refuse the Son of God. “He that sinneth against me wrongeth his own soul; all they that hate me love death.” Ah, it is a sad thing that the very truth, which is life to every believing soul is death to all others. “This is the condemnation.”

Taken from Gems of Robert Murray McCheyne