

## 439 - How Far Form Home

How far from home? I asked, as on  
I bent my steps the watchman spake:

“The long, dark night is almost gone,  
The morning soon will break.

Then weep no more but speed thy flight,  
With Hope's bright star thy guiding ray,  
Till thou shalt reach the realms of light,  
In everlasting days.”

## **439 - How Far Form Home**

**I asked the warrior on the field;**

**This was his soul-inspiring song:**

**"With courage, bold the sword I'll wield**

**The battle is not long.**

**Then weep no more, but well endure**

**The conflict, till thy work is done;**

**For this we know, the prize is sure,**

**When victory is won."**

## **439 - How Far Form Home**

**I asked again; earth, sea, and sun**

**Seemed, with one voice, to make reply:**

**"Time's wasting sands are nearly run,**

**Eternity is nigh.**

**Then weep no more-with warning tones,**

**Portentous signs are thickening round,**

**The whole creation, waiting, groans,**

**To hear the trumpet sound."**

## **439 - How Far Form Home**

**Not far from home! O blessed thought!**

**The traveler's lonely heart to cheer;**

**Which oft a healing balm has brought,**

**And dried the mourner's tear.**

**Then weep no more, since we shall meet**

**Where weary footsteps never roam-**

**Our trails past, our joys complete,**

**Safe in our Father's home.**

# Opening Scripture

## Revelation 1: 10,11:

10) I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,  
11) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.



# **Study of Prophecy: “The Seven Churches”**

**Presenter:** Bro. Samuel Lee

**Venue:** Crane SDA Church

**Service:** Evangelistic Meeting

**Date:** Sunday, January 3 2016

**SESSION 5:**

**5<sup>th</sup> AND 6<sup>th</sup>**

**CHURCHES:**

**SARDIS AND**

**PHILADELPHIA**

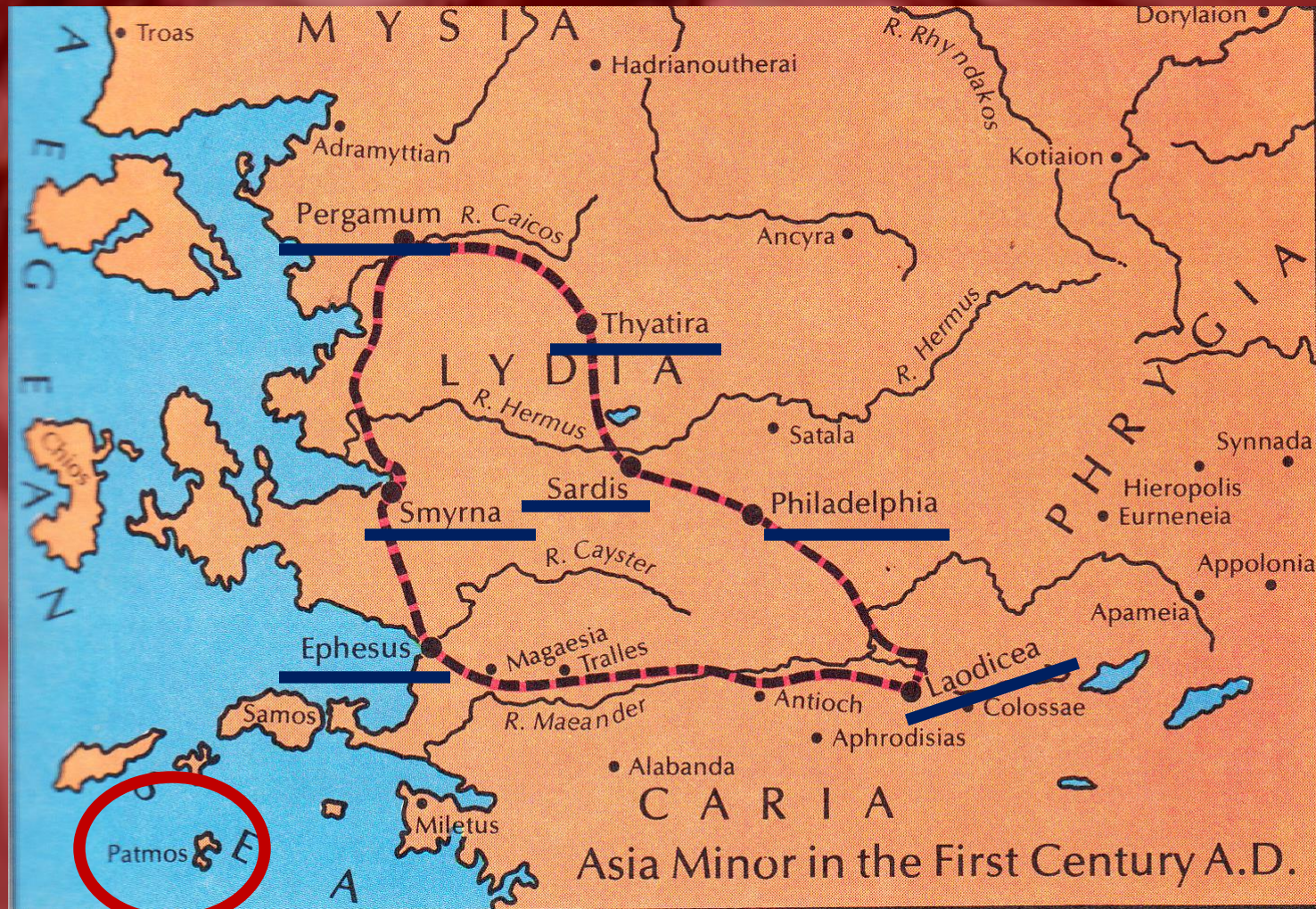
# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



Jesus between the Seven Candlesticks.



# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



Location of the seven Cities. Taken from “God Cares  
Vol. 2” pg 91.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## 5<sup>th</sup> CHURCH: SARDIS



# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Historical Aspect of Sardis

Sardis, ancient city of Asia Minor (now in Turkey), and capital of Lydia, at the north base of Mount Tmolus (now Boz Dağ), on the Pactolus River (now Baguli River), northeast of Smyrna (now İzmir, Turkey). The city attained its greatest prosperity during the reign of Croesus, king of Lydia, and after his overthrow in about 546 BC by Cyrus the Great of Persia, it became the western capital of the Persian Empire. Alexander the Great of Macedonia conquered Lydia in 334 BC. Subsequently, it came under Roman control. Sardis was an early seat of the Christian religion and the site of one of the Seven Churches of Asia mentioned in the Bible (Revelation 3:1). The town was destroyed by the Turkic conqueror Tamerlane in 1402.

**Taken from Microsoft ® Encarta ® 2007.**

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



Encarta Encyclopedica, Roger Wood/Corbis

Sardis: Ruins of the Temple of Artemis (Diana).

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## ❖ Revelation 3:1-6.

1) And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. 2) Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. 3) Remember therefore how thou hast ~~received and heard~~, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## ❖ Revelation 3:1-6 Cont'd.

4) Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy. 5) He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. 6) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Character of Church

1. **Meaning of Sardis:** “That which remains”.
2. **Period:** A.D. 1798 – 1833.
3. **Era:** End of Papal supremacy to the beginning of the Great Advent Awakening.
4. **State of church:** God’s people though purified still clung to papal errors. Sardis lightly esteemed the truths entrusted to them that were obtained at a great and fearful price.

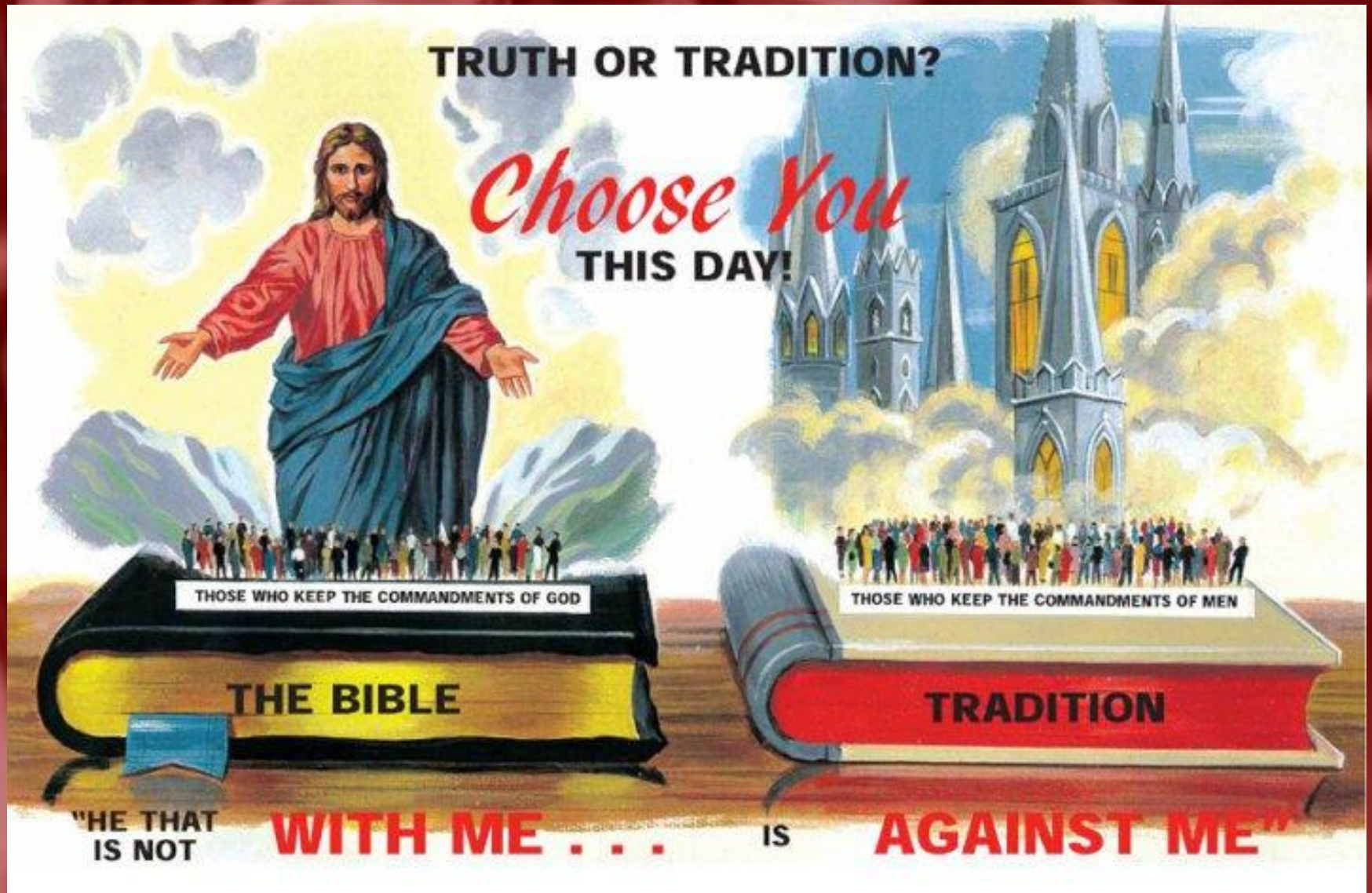
## Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 383)

### Chap. 3 – Behold I Stand at the Door and Knock

**The Cause of Complaint.**--The great fault found with Sardis is that it has a name to live, but is dead. What a high position, in a worldly point of view, has the nominal church occupied during this period! **Look at her high-sounding titles, and her favor with the world. But how pride and popularity have grown apace, until spirituality is destroyed, the line of distinction between the church and the world is obliterated, and the different popular bodies are churches of Christ only in name!**



# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Description and Knowledge of Christ

### ❖ Revelation 3:1

1. He holds the seven spirits and seven stars.
2. Knows the works of the church.

## Commendation to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:4.

1. A few are worthy.- "A few names even in Sardis," would seem to imply a period of unparalleled worldliness in the church. But even in this state of things, there are some whose garments are not defiled, some who have kept themselves free from the contaminating influence of sin." – Dan & Rev.

## The Great Controversy by E.G. White (pp 309-10)

### Chap. 17 – Heralds of the Morning

The condition of the church at this time is pointed out in the Saviour's words in the Revelation, "Thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead."

But as the spirit of humility and devotion in the church had given place to pride and formalism, love for Christ and faith in His coming had grown cold. Absorbed in worldliness and pleasure-seeking, the professed people of God were blinded to the Saviour's instructions concerning the signs of His appearing. The doctrine of the second advent had been neglected; the scriptures relating to it were obscured by misinterpretation, until it was, to a great extent, ignored and forgotten. Especially was this the case in the churches of America.

# The Great Controversy by E.G. White (pp 309-10)

## Chap. 17 – Heralds of the Morning

The freedom and comfort enjoyed by all classes of society, the ambitious desire for wealth and luxury, begetting an absorbing devotion to money-making, the eager rush for popularity and power, which seemed to be within the reach of all, led men to center their interests and hopes on the things of this life, and to put far in the future that solemn day when the present order of things should pass away.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Reproof and Warning to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:1,2.

1. Works of the church are imperfect.
2. Seemingly alive but dead.
3. Christ will come as a thief to surprise.

## Counsel to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:3

1. Repent
2. Remember
3. Awake
4. Strengthen

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



1<sup>st</sup> Warning of Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Promise to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:5.

1. White garments for victors.
2. Will walk with Christ.
3. Confesses overcomer's name. – Matthew 10:32,33.
4. Will not blot out the victor's name. – Read Revelation 20:12-15.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## 6<sup>th</sup> CHURCH: PHILADELPHIA





# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Historical Aspect of Philadelphia

Philadelphia (ancient cities), name of two cities of antiquity.. One so named was a city of Lydia in Asia Minor, founded in the 2nd century BC by Attalus II Philadelphus, king of Pergamum. The city became an important commercial center and an early center of Christianity. The site of the ancient city is occupied by the modern city Alaşehir, Turkey.

**Taken from Microsoft ® Encarta ® 2007.**

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



Location of Philadelphia.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## ❖ Revelation 3:7-13.

7) And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8) I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9) Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## ❖ Revelation 3:7-13 Cont'd.

10) Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. 11) Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12) Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. 13) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

# **5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia**

## **Character of Church**

- 1. Meaning of Philadelphia: “Brotherly Love”.**
- 2. Period: A.D. 1833 – 1844.**
- 3. Era: Period of the Great Advent Movement under the Judgment Hour Message.**
- 4. State of church: Return to Primitive godliness.**

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



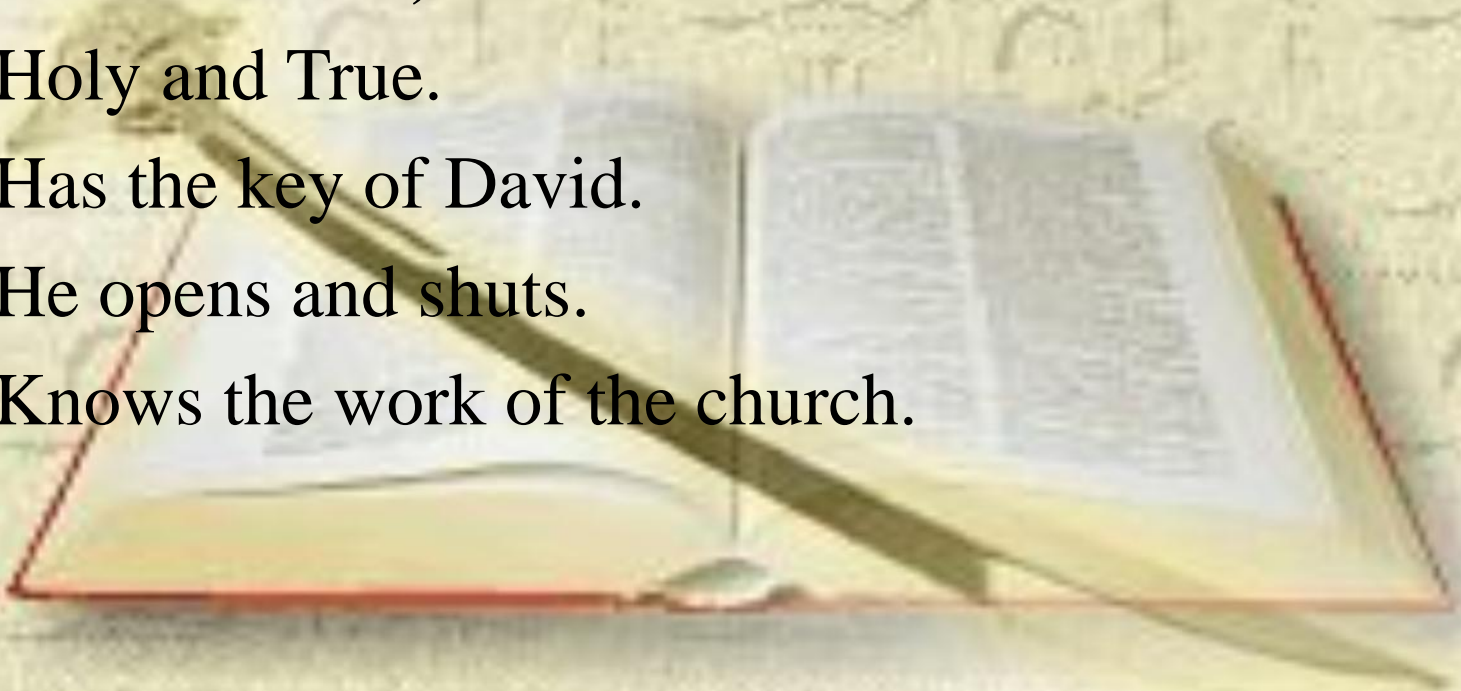
**An American Reformer:**  
An upright, honest-hearted farmer, who had been led to doubt the divine authority of the Scriptures, yet who sincerely desired to know the truth, was the man specially chosen of God to lead out in the proclamation of Christ's second coming.  
- Great Controversy pg 317.

Angel of the church of Philadelphia: William Miller.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Description and Knowledge of Christ

### ❖ Revelation 3:7,8.

1. Holy and True.
  2. Has the key of David.
  3. He opens and shuts.
  4. Knows the work of the church.
- 
- An open book with a red cover and a gold bookmark, resting on a textured surface. The book is open to a page with text, and the bookmark is placed in the middle. The background is a light-colored, textured surface with a repeating pattern of small, stylized figures or symbols.

## Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah Smith (pg 387)

### Revelation Chap. 3 – I Stand At The Door

**"He That Openeth, and No Man Shutteth."--To understand this language, it is necessary to look at Christ's position and work as connected with His ministry in the sanctuary, or true tabernacle, above. (Hebrews 8: 2.) A figure, or pattern, of this heavenly sanctuary once existed here upon earth in the sanctuary built by Moses. (Exodus 25: 8, 9; Acts 7: 44; Hebrews 9: 1, 21, 23, 24.)**

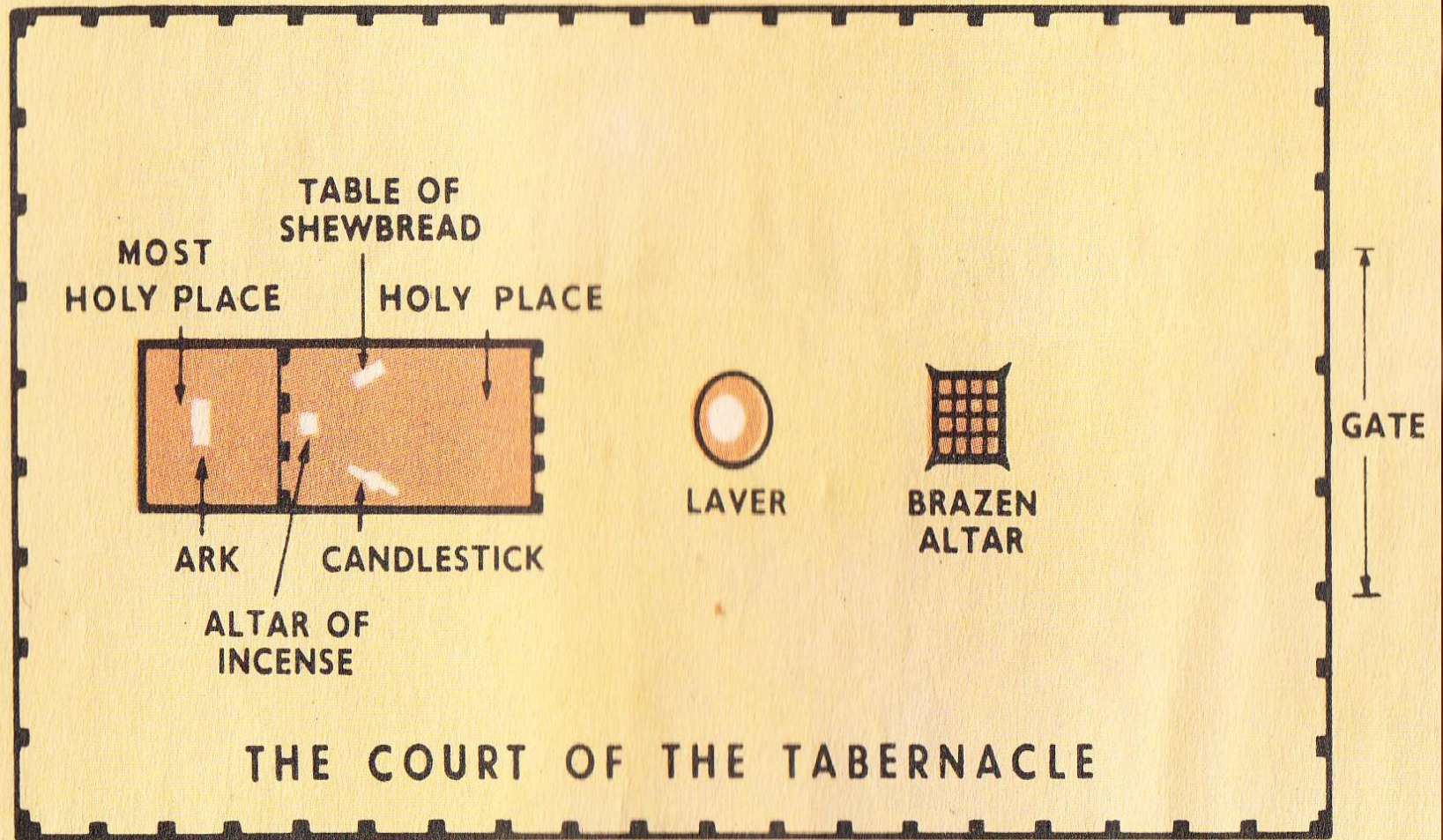


# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



The Elements of the Sanctuary Service.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



# Daniel and The Revelation by Uriah (pg 388)

## Revelation Chap. 3 – I Stand At The Door

A similar opening and shutting, or change of ministration, must be accomplished by Christ when the time comes for the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary. The time for this service to begin did come at the close of the 2300 days, in 1844. To this event the opening and shutting mentioned in the text under consideration can appropriately apply, the opening being that of Christ's ministration in the most holy place, and the shutting, its cessation in the first apartment, or holy place.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

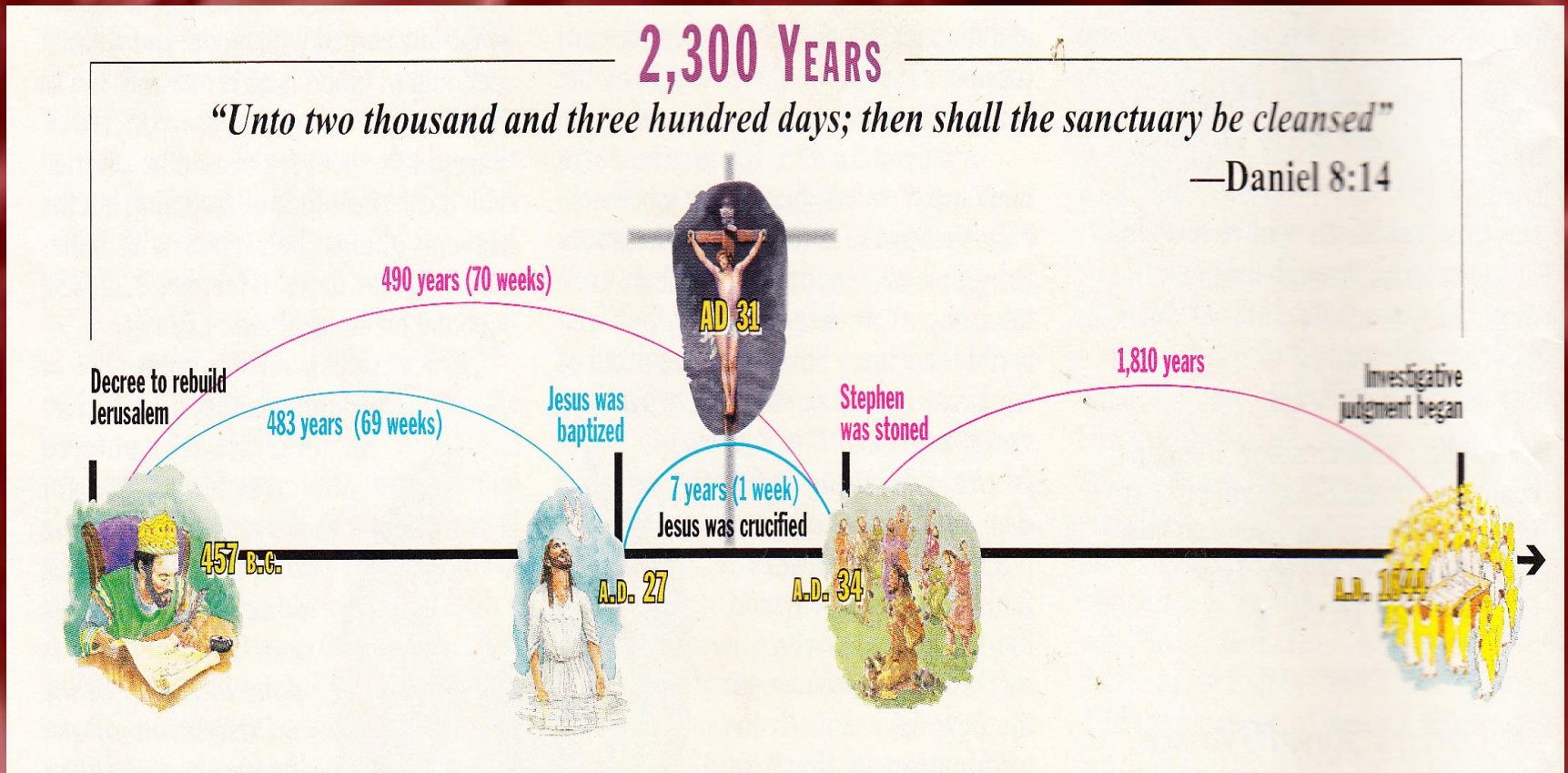


Chart of the 2,300 Years Prophecy of Daniel 8:14.

# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia

## Commendation to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:8-10.

1. Has kept the words of Christ.
2. Did not deny me.
3. Endured.
4. False Jews will worship at your feet.

## Reproof and Warning to the Church

**This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> church not to receive a rebuke.**

## Counsel to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:11.

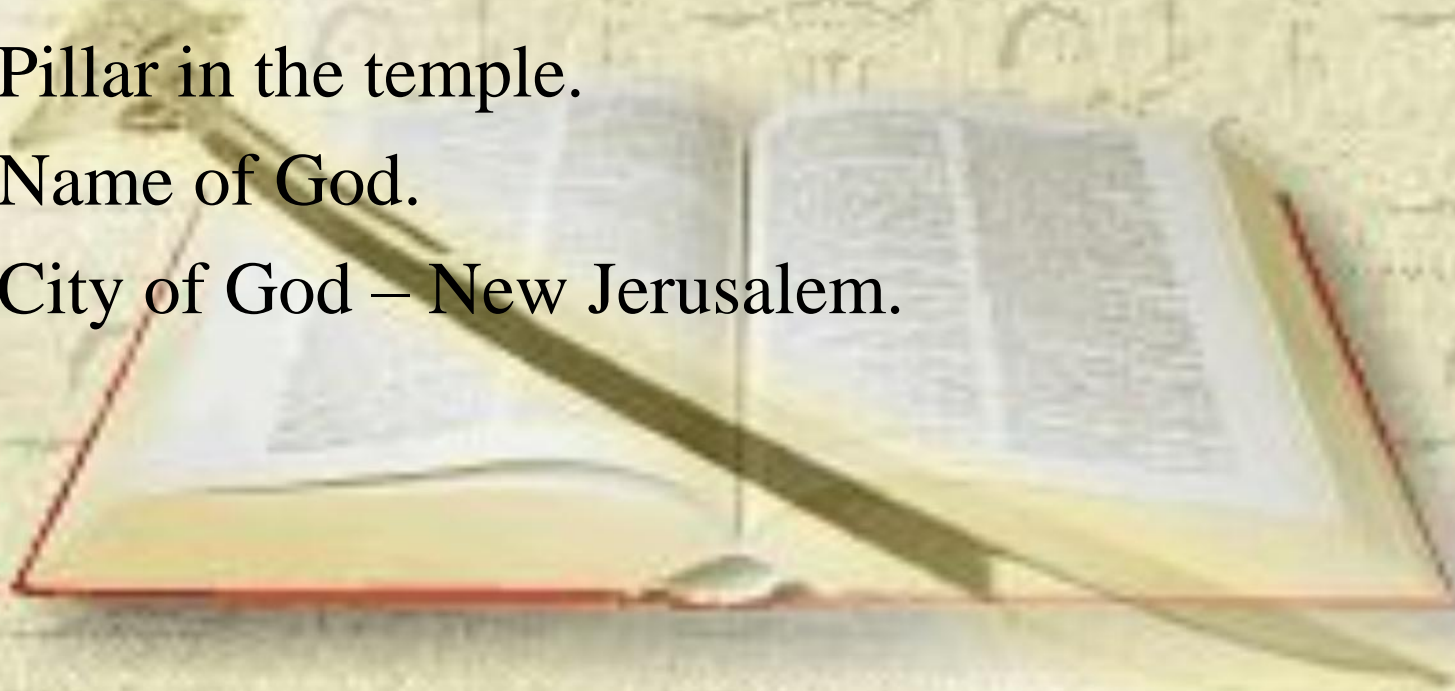
1. Hold fast.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Churches: Pergamos and Thyatira

## Promise to the Church

### ❖ Revelation 3:12.

1. Pillar in the temple.
2. Name of God.
3. City of God – New Jerusalem.




# 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Churches: Sardis and Philadelphia



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“I come quickly..., Let no man take thy Crown.”<sup>39</sup>

A religious painting depicting several angels with large, white, feathered wings flying over a landscape. The angels are dressed in white robes and are shown in various poses of flight. The landscape below features a body of water, a path, and a distant city or town. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall style is characteristic of 19th-century religious art.

MAY GOD  
RICHLY BLESS  
YOU.