



# A Tale of Two Churches

Revelation 3:7-22



**IT WAS THE BEST OF TIMES,  
IT WAS THE WORST OF TIMES**



## **Church at Philadelphia**

- 28 miles southeast of Sardis
- Primarily agricultural
- Earthquakes had destroyed the city several times over the years
- Named after a king of Pergamum - Attalios Philadelphus

# The Message to the Church at Philadelphia

1. Jesus is the HOLY and TRUE
2. Opened a DOOR → that no-one can shut (opportunity)
3. Little Strength → BUT
  - You kept my WORD (which is under attack)
  - You have NOT denied my NAME ↙
4. GOD will judge FALSE TEACHERS
5. The church will be RAPTURED before the Tribulation
6. Overcomers → a PERMANENT PLACE in HEAVEN

# Church at Laodicea

- 40 miles southeast of Philadelphia
- Very wealthy city
- An Earthquake destroyed the city in 60 A.D. - quickly rebuilt.
- The primary industry was wool cloth
- Water for the city traveled on an aqueduct from Hierapolis - a few miles north

# The Message to the Church at Laodicea

Jesus is:

The AMEN → SO BE IT!

The FAITHFUL + TRUE witness → (1 John 1:9)

RULER of all Creation

They were LUKEWARM → which was making Jesus "sick to His stomach".

All the things they thought they were (RICH), they actually weren't. They were poor, destitute...

# Some Observations

The church was urged to restore their relationship/fellowship with Jesus:

1. Recognize Your REALITY v. 17
2. Reverse your PRIORITIES v. 18
3. Repent from your SIN v. 19 (1 John 1:9)
4. Receive GOD'S DISCIPLINE v. 19
5. Restore the RELATIONSHIP v. 20

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Getting "right" with Jesus is both corporate (the church) and personal (each individual)

The process is the same

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