

Remember What You Heard and Obey It!

#3107 0128 24P Revelation 3:1-13

1700 wds

Jesus is speaking—AV Revelation 3:6 “*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*” The entire chapter is in red letters—it compels us to *listen, hear, and obey* what the Savior is saying.

AV Revelation 3:1 “*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 [your deeds NIV], that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.*”

We may keep many things a secret and unknown from others, but NIV Hebrews 4:13 “*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.*” That could *cause concern*, but rather let it *cause* us to walk a little closer to God—in faithful *obedience* to His Word.

AV Revelation 3:2 “*Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.*” The faith of those in Sardis was not fully in line with Scripture. They may have been *talking the talk* but not *walking in Truth*. Jesus says “*Therefore keep watch*” NIV three times Matthew 24:42; 25:13; Mark 13:35 using the exact words.

We must be alert to deception and be spiritually nourished by a regular reading of the

Bible. The church at Sardis *appeared* to be spiritually alive on the *outside* but was spiritually lacking on the *inside*. They had to strengthen their faith in God.

The church is to teach and speak God’s Truth in love; accept it by faith and put it into practice. Every new *day* we need a new *infilling* of the Spirit to strengthen our faith. We should *re-evaluate* our priorities; *adjust* our attitudes; *confess* our sins and *re-commit* our life to God.

AV Revelation 3:3 “*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.*”

A thief gives no advance notice—they just show up suddenly and unexpectedly. If we have repented and are sincere in our walk with the Lord, we will be *glad* to greet Jesus. We would *not* fear *nor* dread His arrival but be *ready* and *waiting* for Him.

The apostle speaks of the attitude we should have. NKJV 1 John 2:28 “*And now, little children, abide [continue NIV] in Him [Jesus], that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.*”

If we have some *issues* to deal with—some *attitudes* that are not right and we are slothful in correcting them, we would *not* be confident at His coming—we would WEY 1 John 2:28 “*Shrink away in shame from His presence at His Coming.*” AV Hebrews 2:1 “*Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip.*”

Satan wants us to let the Truth of God *slip* from us—having us *tolerate* some sin in our

life; *putting up* with some wrong attitude in our heart; *retaining* some unscriptural books, videos or other materials—anything that would make us shrink back in shame at the return of Jesus.

AV Revelation 3:4 “*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.*” To be worthy to walk with Jesus in white, we need to have truly repented of our sins before God—and be walking in faithful obedience to His Word by the power of the Spirit.

This cleansing by faith in the Blood of Jesus and overcoming temptation, is more important than we may realize. 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.*”

Everyone will stand before Jesus at some point. Revelation 20:12 AV “*The dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.*” The Christian life is not just *looking religious*, but actually *being righteous* in the sight of God, by a trusting faith in the Blood of His Son.

We must always be ready to *learn* spiritual truth as God is always ready to *teach* it. AV Revelation 3:6 “*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*”

No matter what else we achieve during our time on earth, the only issue of importance is whether our *name* is written in the Book of Life—that determines our *destiny!* Jesus told His disciples—AV Luke 10:20 “*Rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*”

If we are walking by faith in God, we would not fear judgment—since Jesus will confess our name before the Father. NKJV Luke 12:8 *“Whoever confesses Me before men, him the Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God. 9 But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.”*

It is always a *choice* to believe or not believe—to trust in God or trust something else—to witness for the *Lord* or witness for the *world*. AV Matthew 5:16 *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”* All that we say and do and decide is to bring glory to God.

AV Revelation 3:7 *“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.”* Jesus is holy and true and has the key to Paradise—no one else can open or shut that door.

Jesus says AV Revelation 3:8 *“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.”*

An open door to share God’s Truth to someone can be part of our prayer. The apostle Paul went to Troas, and NKJV 2 Corinthians 2:12 *“A door was opened to me by the Lord.”* We can pray for the opportunity to shine the light of God’s Truth on someone who needs to see it—and that light shines by our *words*, our *attitudes*, and *treating* people with kindness and consideration.

We are living at a *critical time* in history—the world is getting darker spiritually—and by the minute. We need to shine the light of God’s

Truth more than ever—and we show it by our words and interactions with people. In the first century, Roman roads enabled the flow of commerce, communication, and advancement of the Gospel.

Philadelphia had become a gateway to the east—it gave the opportunity to spread the Good News of God’s Truth to many. Revelation 3:8 *“I have set before thee an open door.”* These are the world’s last days, and God has enabled modern technology to accomplish amazing things that could not be done previously.

AV Revelation 3:9 *“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.”* Smyrna and Philadelphia are the only two churches that the Lord commended.

A *synagogue of Satan* would refer to high crime areas or immoral districts—where people are controlled by the devil. It could also include religious groups that teach delusions like eternal security—saying that once you are *saved* you can never be *lost*—no matter what choices you make later—which is not true.

AV Revelation 3:10 *“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.”* Then a serious warning to *Be Aware of the Time!* AV Revelation 3:11 *“Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.”*

The hour of temptation is the global event of seven years of Tribulation. As we *persevere* in trusting God and *keeping* His Word of Truth,

Jesus promises to keep *us* from the divine wrath that is coming on a rebellious world.

God spared Noah and his family from the flood, and He rescued Lot from Sodom and Gomorrah. God’s wrath did not rain down fire and brimstone on those evil cities until Lot and his family were out of harm’s way Genesis 19.

Jesus then reminds us of the need to *overcome* temptation. AV Revelation 3:12 *“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.”*

Jesus again says AV Revelation 3:13 *“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.”* God is speaking vitally important truths to *us* and to the *world!* He wants everyone to *read* and *heed* the warnings; to *keep* His Truth; to *re-commit* our life to Him each day; and to **Remember What You Heard and Obey It!**

It is the *only* way *anyone* will enter the gates into the eternal city.



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