****

**Learn the Patterns of Prophecy**

1. **The Why** is more important than the when.
2. **See God’s consistency** in who He is.
3. **Example: Pentecost-** Moses in the presence of God. Ruth & Boaz a type representing the Kinsman Redeemer. Acts 2 the coming of the Holy Spirit. (Genesis 5:21-24 & Jude 1:14-16)

**Acts 17:11**

**Revelation 3:1**

**Intimate Letters to the Bride**

1. **Ephesus** the apostolic Church is to consider how far they have fallen and if they don’t repent their place within the Kingdom will be removed.
2. **Smyrna** the persecuted Church. They are fighting the devil and have proven faithful.
3. **Pergamum** an unholy Church married to the world with only a remnant holding on to His name.
4. **Thyatira** anevil Church, with false teaching and false prophets in charge. The remnant is told to hold on.
5. **Sardis** the dead Church. It has appearances without performance, a lack of diligence and watchfulness about the end times.
6. **Philadelphia** a church that kept His word. I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming upon the whole world.

**Revelation 3:2-6**

**The Message (Sardis)**

1. **V:1** **They denied the** Word of the Holy Spirit.

The seven spirits represent the Holy Spirit. **Isaiah 11:2-3** The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

1. **V:2 Wake up**: Truth is unfinished in the sight of God.
2. **V:3 If you don’t wake up:** You will miss the rapture when Jesus comes as a thief in the night.
3. **V:4 Clean clothing:** the white clothing represents transformation of the new life.
4. **V:5 They lack acknowledgment.** They deny the inerrancy (Holy Spirit) of the Word of God. Their association with Jesus as being the Bridegroom is only an allegory.
5. **The majority deny** the millennial reign and do not respect or understand the promises to Israel. (99% Catholics 70% Protestants)

**Revelation 3:7-13**

**The Message (Philadelphia)**

1. **V:7 The Key of David:** Most Churches miss this important truth about God’s will for humanity especially to Israel. Jesus is connecting these promises with open doors. (Luke 1:32 & Isaiah 9:7 & Isaiah 22:22-25) This is **the promise** that Jesus will reign from David’s throne.
2. **V:8 The Open door.** Because this church honors the whole counsel of God ‘s word a special honor is given.

**Open & Shut Doors**

1. **Jesus is the door** (Gate) (John 10:7 & 9)
2. **We are to pray for** open doors of service. (Colossians 4:3)
3. **God closes the door** 7 days before the flood. (Genesis 7: 4 & 16)
4. **The Wedding door** was shut. (Matt. 25:10)

**Message to Philadelphia Continues**

1. **V:8 The Open door.** Because this church honors the whole counsel of God’s word a special honor is given.
2. **V:9** **The World and the devil will** have to acknowledge this special love Jesus has for the Church that keeps the whole counsel of God.
3. **V:10-11 They escape from the trial.** This church is going to be rapture! The promise is Jesus is coming soon.
4. **V:12 This segment of the body** is honored for all eternity with special recognition in the New Jerusalem.

**Parallels to the 7 Parables (Matt. 13 & 25)**

1. **Matthew 13:33-35 & 36-43 Sardis is the yeast & weeds.** They work death throughout the Church like yeast. They kill off what is remaining like weeds choke off the healthy.
2. **Matthew 25:1-10 The Church of Philadelphia** is wise virgins. Sardis, Thyatira, Pergamum, and Laodicea are the foolish virgins.

**Themes**

1. **The titles** of Jesus
2. **The promises** of Jesus
3. **Let everyone hear** what the Spirit says to the Churches.
4. **Time is short,** repent now while there is still time.