



# REVELATION 27 – PHILADELPHIA: KEY OF DAVID STEWARDSHIP

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Revelation 3:7

# PHILADELPHIA: LOVE FOR ONE'S BROTHERS (1J0 2:9-11)

- Christ identifies Himself to the *episkopos* {Church} as speaking:
  - Holiness – No shadow, no darkness; The very image of the Father (Jn 12:44-50; Ja 1:16-18)
  - Truth – No variableness; Christ speaks only the *Amen* He was given (Jn 1:1-18; 7:16-18; 14:1-7)
- Philadelphia {Gk: Phila-Love; Delphia-Brother} has become trite, nearly devoid of meaning over the millennium
  - *Philadelphia* communicates an intimate connection between Christ {Son of God} and Saved Man {*Adopted* sons of God} (Ro 5:6-8; Ga 4:1-7 1:15-20; He 2:14-18)
  - We are bought with a **price**, blood of Christ, to be slaves of righteousness (Ro 6:15-23; 1Co 7:23; 1Pe 1:17-23)

# UNDERSTANDING STEWARDSHIP: **DELEGATED** AUTHORITY

- Christ identifies Himself as one who has the *Key of David* which comes from Isaiah: *Key of the house of David* (Is 22:15-22; Jn 14:2-3)
- References two stewards of the King's *house*: Shebna and Eliakim
- But first; what is a Steward?
  - Greek {οἰκονόμος, oikonomos} One who puts in order, delegated authority to whom one is accountable; varied from a state position to a trusted slave or both {Joseph} (Ge 39; 41:38-44; 1Co 4:2; 15:22-28)
  - Christ spoke several parables about stewards who were slaves entrusted with administering their master's affairs; some faithful, some unfaithful {Duality} (Lk 12:37-48)
  - Christ, as *only begotten*, is Steward over His Father's *House* {Our Salvation} (He 3:1-6)

# KEY OF DAVID: DUALITY OF STEWARDSHIPS

## SHEBNAH – {SELF} VIGOR

- Steward to King Hezekiah {Trust}
- Assisted in negotiations with Assyrian army, along with Eliakim (2Ki 18:17-33)
- Isaiah condemned Shebna for exalting himself over his King; **Disloyalty** (Is 22:15-19)
- Hezekiah's faith declined after his near-death experience {Solomon}; yet God **hates** rebellion (1Sa 15:23; Is 39)

## ELIAKIM – GOD RAISES

- God appointed Eliakim as Steward to replace *unfaithful* Shebna (Is 22:20-22)
- As a faithful Steward, he was given the *key of David*, king's authority to act in the King's name *within given parameters*
- What he opens, allows access, will be opened; what he closes, will be closed: He speaks in the King's name {Messianic (Conquering) Prophecy}

# METAPHOR OF STEWARDSHIP: UNJUST AND JUST STEWARDS

## SATAN – ACCUSER

- Satan, as *highest* of angelic Creation {Heaven}, was *secondary* to the Son who created him (Is 14:12-14; Col 1:15-20; He 1:5-14)
- He elevated himself above the Son falling victim to pride; rebelled against his position of a ministering spirit (Ez 28:12-18)
- Caused Man's Fall to create his kingdom despoiling Father's Plan (Ge 3:1-13; Job 1:6-12; 2:1-8)
- Sinners, as their father Satan, demand Control {Rebellion called Liberty} (Jn 8:44)

## CHRIST – MEEKNESS

- Father created all *ex nihilo*; He is sole authority as Creator (Ge 1:1-2; Ps 50:10-12)
- Father *appointed* Son Steward of creation, principalities and powers (Ge 1:3-5 Col 1:15-20)
- Son faithful to death fulfilling Father's Plan, our salvation (Ep 1:15-23; Ph 2:3-8)
- Due to His faithfulness, Father puts all under Son's authority; Son gives it back to the Father submitting Himself and Us (1Co 15:20-28; Ep 1:15-23; Ph 2:9-11)

# EVERYTHING FLOWS FROM THE FATHER: EVERYONE ACCOUNTABLE AS STEWARDS

- Father is source of **life** and worthy of all worship: Potter – Clay (Je 18:1-11; Ro 9:14-24)
  - Father delegates to the Son, Son delegates: Man to Woman; Parents to Child; Citizens to Nations; Nations to God via the Son (Jn 5:19-29; 6:37-40; Ac 4:18-20; Ro 13:1-5; Ep 5:22-6:4; 1Pe 3:1-7)
  - Satan to Adam to Cain to Nimrod to all sinners are unfaithful stewards claiming as theirs what belongs to the Father who is longsuffering toward them (2Pe 3:9-10)
  - Life, body and blessings flow from Father; Man is caretaker, not owner (2Co 5:10; Re 20:11-15)
  - Lost reject Stewardship; claim ownership; Socialism *simulacrum* of God-Son-Saved intimacy: Saved embrace Stewardship following Christ's example of Humility (1Pe 4:10-11; Re 2:17; 3:12)
- Peter *given*, as a steward, key of David from Christ, as all mature Christians as faithful stewards: Stewards must be found faithful – Are YOU a faithful steward? (Ps 24:1-6; Mt 12:30-32; 16:13-19; 1Co 4:1-5)