

Seven Oracles of Jesus to the Seven Churches: Sixth Oracle to Philadelphia
Revelation 3:

Angel: “And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

Author: “The words of the holy one,
the true one,
who has the key of David,
who opens and no one will shut,
who shuts and no one opens.

Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, “Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him: What have you to do here, and whom have you here, that you have cut out here a tomb for yourself, you who cut out a tomb on the height and carve a dwelling for yourself in the rock? Behold, the LORD will hurl you away violently, O you strong man. He will seize firm hold on you and whirl you around and around, and throw you like a ball into a wide land. There you shall die, and there shall be your glorious chariots, you shame of your master's house. I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. **And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.** And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his father's house. And they will hang on him the whole honor of his father's house, the offspring and issue, every small vessel, from the cups to all the flagons. In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, the peg that was fastened in a secure place will give way, and it will be cut down and fall, and the load that was on it will be cut off, for the LORD has spoken.” (Isaiah 22:15-25)

Assertion: “I know

Approval: your works.

- a. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut.
- b. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.
- c. Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and
- d. they will learn that I have loved you.
- e. Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.
- f. I am coming soon.

Kingdom Entrance

Poor in Spirit	(Matthew 5:3)
Persecuted for Righteousness' sake	(Matthew 5:10)
From the east and the west	(Matthew 8:11)
Less than John the Baptist	(Matthew 11:11)
Keys given to Peter	(Matthew 16:19)
Greatest in Kingdom are children	(Matthew 18:3)
Difficult for the rich	(Matthew 19:24)
Tax collectors and prostitutes who believe	(Matthew 21:31)
The Sheep, not the Goats	(Matthew 25:34)
Thief on the cross	(Luke 23:42)
Born again	(John 3:3)
The poor	(James 2:5)

And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

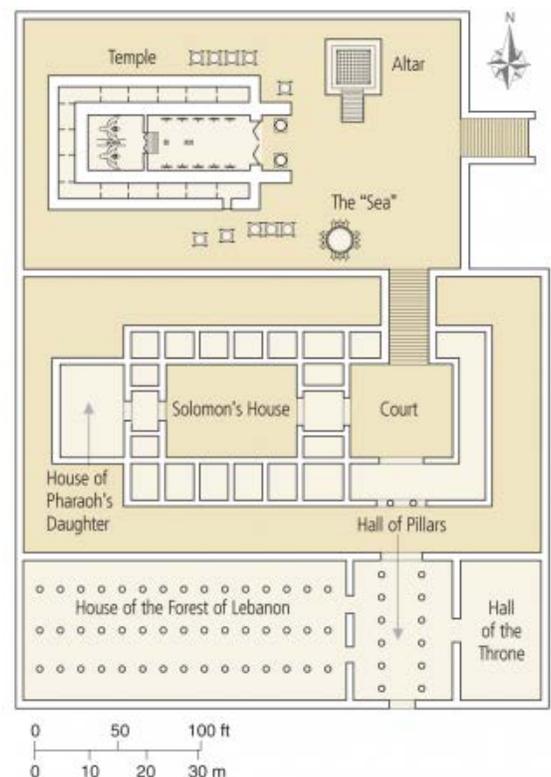
- A) "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- B) "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
- C) "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.
- D) "Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man!
- E) Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.
- A1) "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.
- B1) "Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.
- C1) "Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.
- D1) "Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets. (Luke 6:20-26)

Action: Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.

Assurance: The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God.
Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

He set up the pillars at the vestibule of the temple. He set up the pillar on the south and called its name Jachin, and he set up the pillar on the north and called its name Boaz. 22 And on the tops of the pillars was lily-work. Thus the work of the pillars was finished. (1 Kings 7:21-22)

Admonition: He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'



Solomon's Temple and Palace Complex

To get to the new quarter that Solomon built from the old city of David, one had to pass through the gate in the northern Davidic city wall. Going in a northerly direction, the new complex consisted of an entrance hall, the so-called Hall of Pillars (1 Kings 7:6); the House of the Forest of Lebanon (7:2-5); the porch (7:6b); the king's house (7:8a); and the house of his wife, Pharaoh's daughter (7:8b).

The House of the Forest of Lebanon, shown here to the west of the Hall of Pillars, served as an armory. The main hall had rows of cedar pillars, and gold shields and targets hung on its walls (10:16-17). To the east of the Hall of Pillars was the porch, or Hall of the Throne, Solomon's place of judgment. Beyond the Hall of Pillars lay Solomon's palace. Here is the setting which so impressed the Queen of Sheba on her visit to King Solomon (1 Kings 10).

There are parallels between this palace complex and the contemporary palaces of northern Syria, with the order of the parts of the building in 1 Kings 7 corresponding to the order of the units in these palaces.