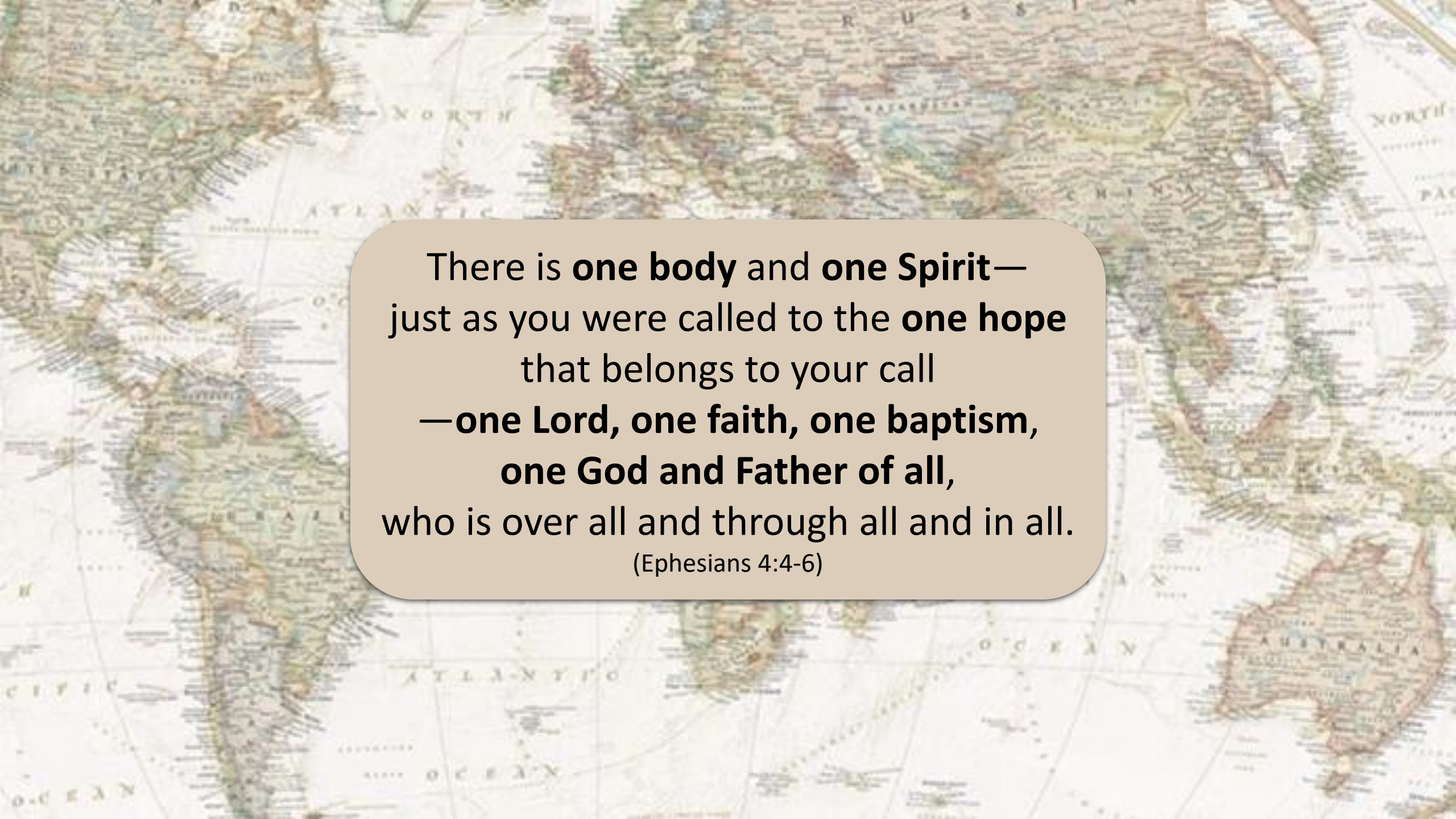




The
Revelation
of **Jesus Christ**

An overview

8. The Lord's message to Philadelphia

A world map with a beige text box in the center. The map shows continents and oceans in muted colors. The text box contains a quote from Ephesians 4:4-6.

There is **one body** and **one Spirit**—
just as you were called to the **one hope**
that belongs to your call
—**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,**
one God and Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

(Ephesians 4:4-6)

Overview of the first section

Chapter 1

- Introduction
- The first vision – Christ in the midst of the lampstands

Chapters 2 & 3

- **The Lord's messages to the seven churches**



Chapters 4 & 5

- All heaven worships God upon His throne
- The Lamb takes the sealed scroll and is worshipped

Chapters 6 & 7 and 8:1

- The scroll's seven seals are opened



The Lord's messages to the seven churches

*"Write what you see in a book and
send it to the seven churches..."*

(Revelation 1:11)



“Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches...”

Ephesus

“You have left your **first love**.”

Smyrna

“**Be faithful until death**, and I will give you the crown of life.”

Pergamum

“You **hold fast** My name... [Antipas died] But I have a few things against you...”

Thyatira

“I am He who searches mind and heart... **Hold fast** what you have until I come.”

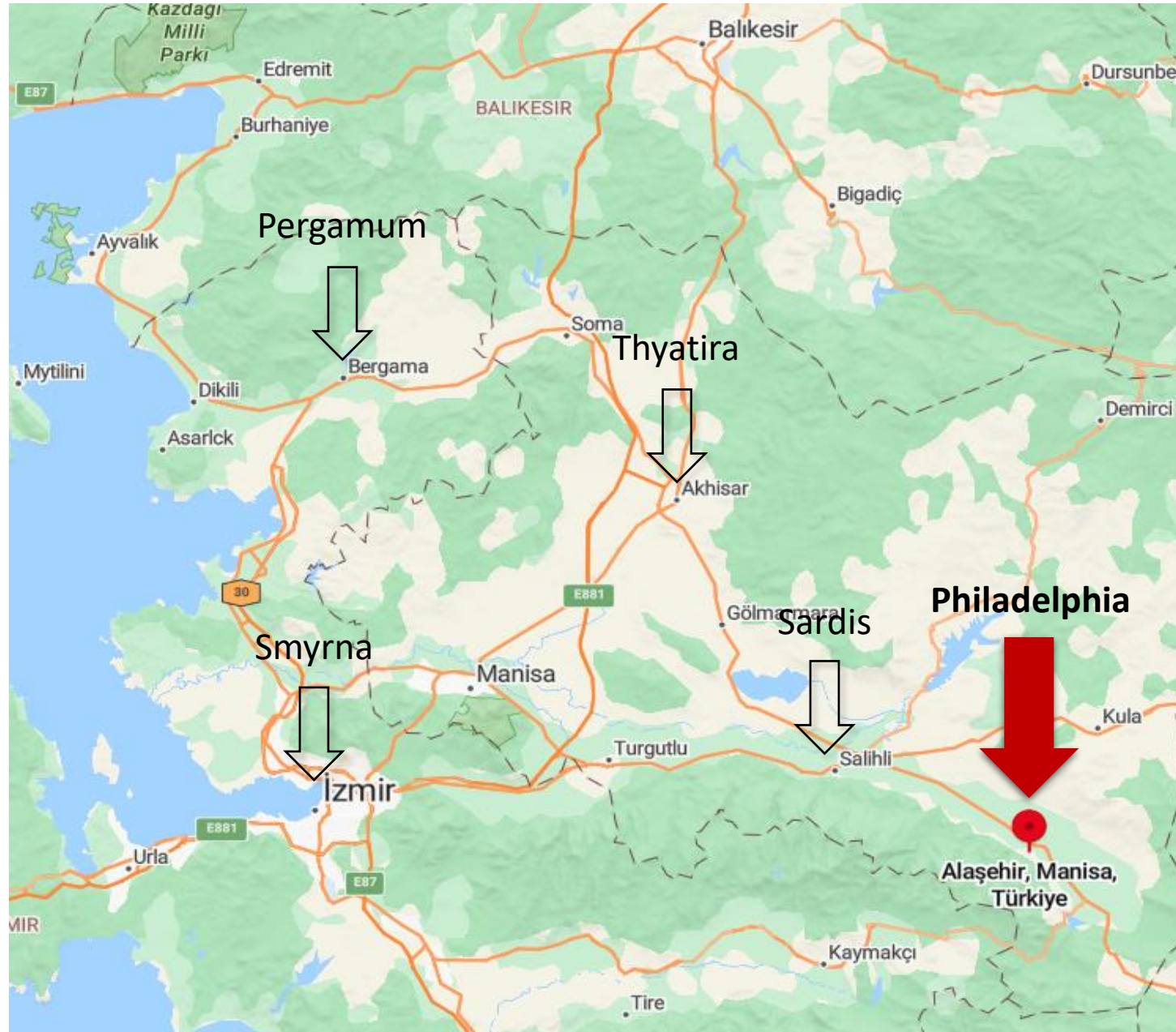
Sardis

“You have the reputation of being alive, but **you are dead**.”

Philadelphia

“To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write...”

Laodicea



Philadelphia
(now Alaşehir)

-
45km southeast
of **Sardis** (near Salihli)
and
100km east
of **Smyrna** (İzmir)

Philadelphia in history

Apparently founded c. 189 BC by King Eumenes II of Pergamon, the city was named after his younger brother and successor, Attalus II, known as *Philadelphos*, “one who loves his brother”. Philadelphia was well known for its vulnerability to earthquakes and for wine growing.

Byzantine columns: Church of St John (from c. 600 AD)



What may remain of Philadelphia is now buried



Philadelphia in history

Apparently founded c. 189 BC by King Eumenes II of Pergamon, the city was named after his younger brother and successor, Attalus II, known as *Philadelphos*, “one who loves his brother”. Philadelphia was well known for its vulnerability to earthquakes and for wine growing.

*In the loss of **Ephesus** the Christians deplored the fall of the first angel, the extinction of the first candle-stick, of the Revelation; the desolation is complete; and the Temple of Diana or the Church of Mary will equally elude the search of the curious traveler. The circus and three stately theatres of **Laodicea** are now peopled with wolves and foxes; **Sardis** is reduced to a miserable village; the God of Mahomet, without a rival or a Son, is invoked in the mosques of **Thyatira** and **Pergamos**, and the populousness of **Smyrna** is supported by the foreign trade of the Franks and Armenians. **Philadelphia alone has been saved by prophecy or courage.***

The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire – Edward Gibbon (1776-1788)

FIVE KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?
3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?
4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?
5. What is promised to those who overcome?

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?

These things says

He who is **Holy**,

He who is **True**,

*He who who has **the key of David**,*

who opens and no one will shut,

who shuts and no one opens.

(Revelation 3:7)

From Isaiah 22:22

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?

He who is Holy

Set apart to God and having God's character

He who is True

Utterly genuine, perfect, sound and certain

He who has the Key of David

All authority, King of Israel, Ruler of the kings of the earth


KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
- 2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?**
3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?
4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?
5. What is promised to those who overcome?

2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?

I know your works...

Dynamis = force,
power, ability



...that you have but little power,
and yet you have kept My word
and have not denied My name.

(Revelation 3:8)

You have kept My word about patient endurance...

(Revelation 3:10)

2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?

You have kept My word
about patient endurance...

(Revelation 3:10)

Ephesus:

I know ... your **patient endurance**...

Smyrna:

Be faithful until death...

Pergamum:

You **hold fast** to My name...

Thyatira:

Hold fast what you have till I come.

Sardis:

Be watchful ... hold fast

Philadelphia:

You have kept My word **to persevere**...

KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?
- 3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?**
4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?
5. What is promised to those who overcome?

3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?

1

Behold,
I have set before you an open door,
which no one is able to shut.

(Revelation 3:8)



3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?

2

Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and **bow down before your feet**, and to know that **I have loved you**.

(Revelation 3:9)

3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?

3

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.

(Revelation 3:10)

To discover or prove
where people stand
in relation to God

3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?

- ① He sets before them an “**open door**”
- ② He promises **vindication** before their Jewish persecutors
- ③ He promises to keep them from “**the hour of trial**”

KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?
3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?
- 4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?**
5. What is promised to those who overcome?

4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?

Persevere!

I am coming soon!

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

(Revelation 3:11)

Crown of
victory, honour

Finally, there is laid up for me **the crown of righteousness**,
which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day,
and not to me only but also **to all who have loved His appearing**.

(2 Timothy 4:8)

KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?
3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?
4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?
- 5. What is promised to those who overcome?**

5. What is promised to those who overcome?

To write your name on...
= To make your own

The one who overcomes,

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**.

(Revelation 3:12)

FIVE KEY QUESTIONS

1. What does the Lord say about Himself?
2. What does the Lord say about those in Philadelphia?
3. What does the Lord say He will do for them?
4. What must the believers in Philadelphia do?
5. What is promised to those who overcome?

The **Revelation** of **Jesus Christ**

Revelation 3:7-13

So, what have we seen in Philadelphia?

- ✓ The believers had little strength, but persevered faithfully
- ✓ The Lord is faithful and committed to His people
- ✓ The Lord loves His people and has great plans for them

The
Revelation
of **Jesus Christ**

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

**DO WE HAVE
ANY EXCUSE?**