

**“Victory Of Christ”
To The Church In Philadelphia
Revelation 3:7-13**

*** Messages To The Seven Churches:**

- To Ephesus - A Loveless Church (2:1-7)

- Commands: _____

- To Smyrna - A Persecuted Church (2:8-11)

- Commands: _____

- To Pergamos - A Tolerant Church (2:12-17)

- Command: _____

- To Thyatira - A Contaminated Church (2:18-29)

- Command: _____

- To Sardis - A Dying Church (3:1-6)

- Commands: _____

*** A Trade-Guild In Roman Times:**

- Was Called A “ _____ ” - And Included:

- A _____ Aspect:

- “It was a voluntary union of people who practiced the same profession, sharing the advantages and the disadvantages of their activity!”

- A _____ Aspect:

- “The members honored and worshiped specific deities who protected their collegia and together practiced common cult rites, including the imperial cult!”

- An _____ Aspect:

- Through “The legal entity recognized by the association, the management of the kitty and of other personal goods, as well as landed property and often very sizeable incomes, as well as the management of monopolies and of state concessions!”

- A _____ Aspect:

- “In the large centers, members often worked in the same area, whereas in small centers they represented an entire sector of the production of the town!”

- A _____ Aspect:

- The Guild Would Present “Themselves as a united group with respect to the state!”

- A _____ Aspect:

- “They developed profitable, reciprocal relationships with patrons and influential public personages!”

- _____:

- By “Offering assistance to poorer members or to the families of members who had died!”

- Collegia Could Be Considered Either:

- “Legitimum” - Or - “Illicitum”

- At Times - They Might Be Suspended Or Outlawed

*** What About Christians?**

- “Christians remained _____ from much of social life because almost all aspects – athletics, entertainment, political affairs, and many commercial transactions – were permeated with idolatry.” (Ferguson, Church History, 67.)

- “The growth of the Christian movement in a specific locale could impact the _____ and adversely affect revenues tied to pagan worship. (Acts 19; Pliny, Letters 10.96.)