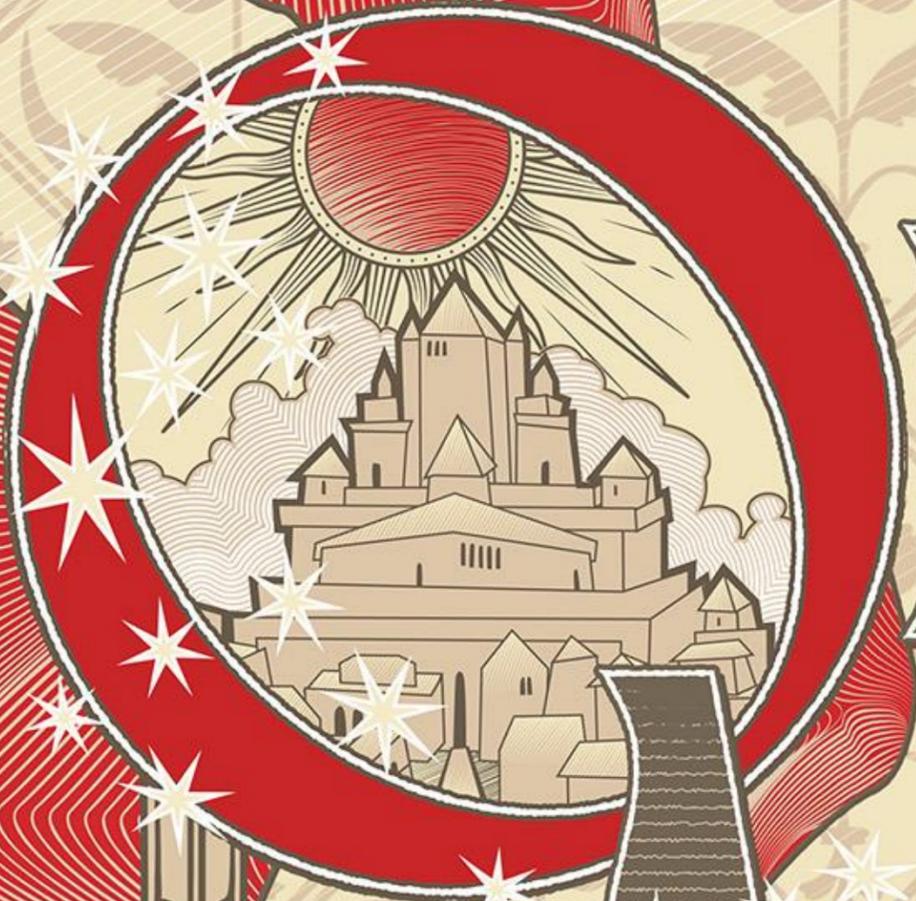
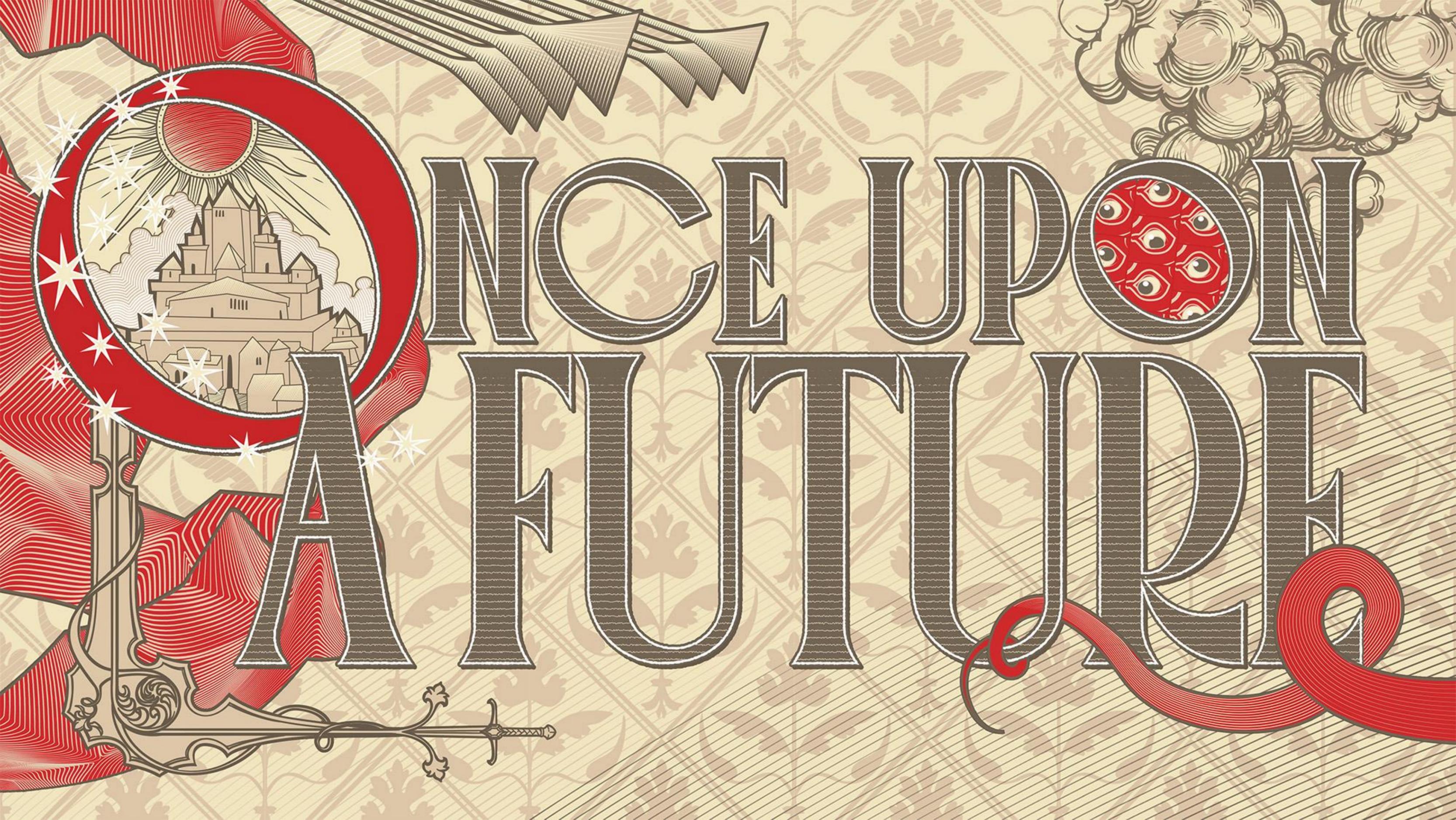




# Babylon

any social, cultural,  
or political **system** or **power**  
used by **Satan** to oppose God  
and draw people away from God.



ANCE UPON  
A FUTURE

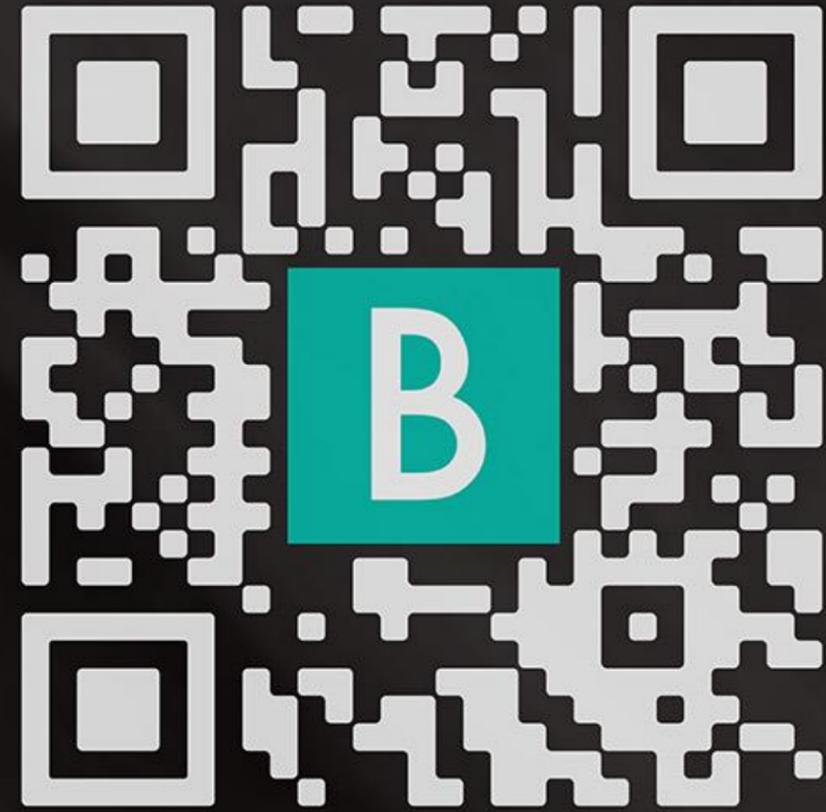


ON  
THE





# THE HUB



[blackhawk.church/hub](https://blackhawk.church/hub)

# Chapter 1

Introduction

# Chapters 2-3

Short Messages to 7 Churches

# Chapters 4-22

A Long Fantasy (Weird) Story

## Seven Letters

To the angel

These are the words of (Jesus)

I know your deeds:

- Good stuff (2/7); Not so great (1/7); Mixed bag (4/7)

Do this.

Whoever has ears . . .

The one who is victorious . . .

## Sardis -- Glorious Past

- Founded 1200 years before Christ
- Great wealth & economic innovations – minting coins
- Twice Sacked by invaders - Cyrus (546 BC) and Antiochus III (214 BC)





<sup>1</sup> “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God.

Revelation 3:1-2 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. <sup>4</sup> Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.

Revelation 3:3-4 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Revelation 3:5-6 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, **dressed in white**, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The **one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white**. I will never blot out the name of that person from **the book of life**, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Revelation 3:4-6 (NIV)

... I know your deeds; **you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.** <sup>2</sup> Wake up! **Strengthen what remains** and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God.

Revelation 3:1b-2 (NIV)

<sup>2</sup> **Wake up!** Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But **if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief,** and you will not know at what time I will come to you. <sup>4</sup> Yet you have **a few people** in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. **They will walk with me,** dressed in white, for they are worthy.

Revelation 3:2-4 (NIV)



WELCOME

EASTSIDE  
AUDITORIUM

BLACKHAWK LIVE

WOMEN

EASTSIDE  
AUDITORIUM

BLACKHAWK LIVE

MEN

WESTSIDE  
AUDITORIUM

GOSPEL FUSION

GYMNASIUM

TRADITIONS

CHINESE

WESTSIDE  
AUDITORIUM

GOSPEL FUSION

FOLLOW  
CONNECT  
LEARN  
LIVE

NEW  
HERE?  
NEXT  
STEPS



05

I've got good  
news Jesus  
loves you

EXIT

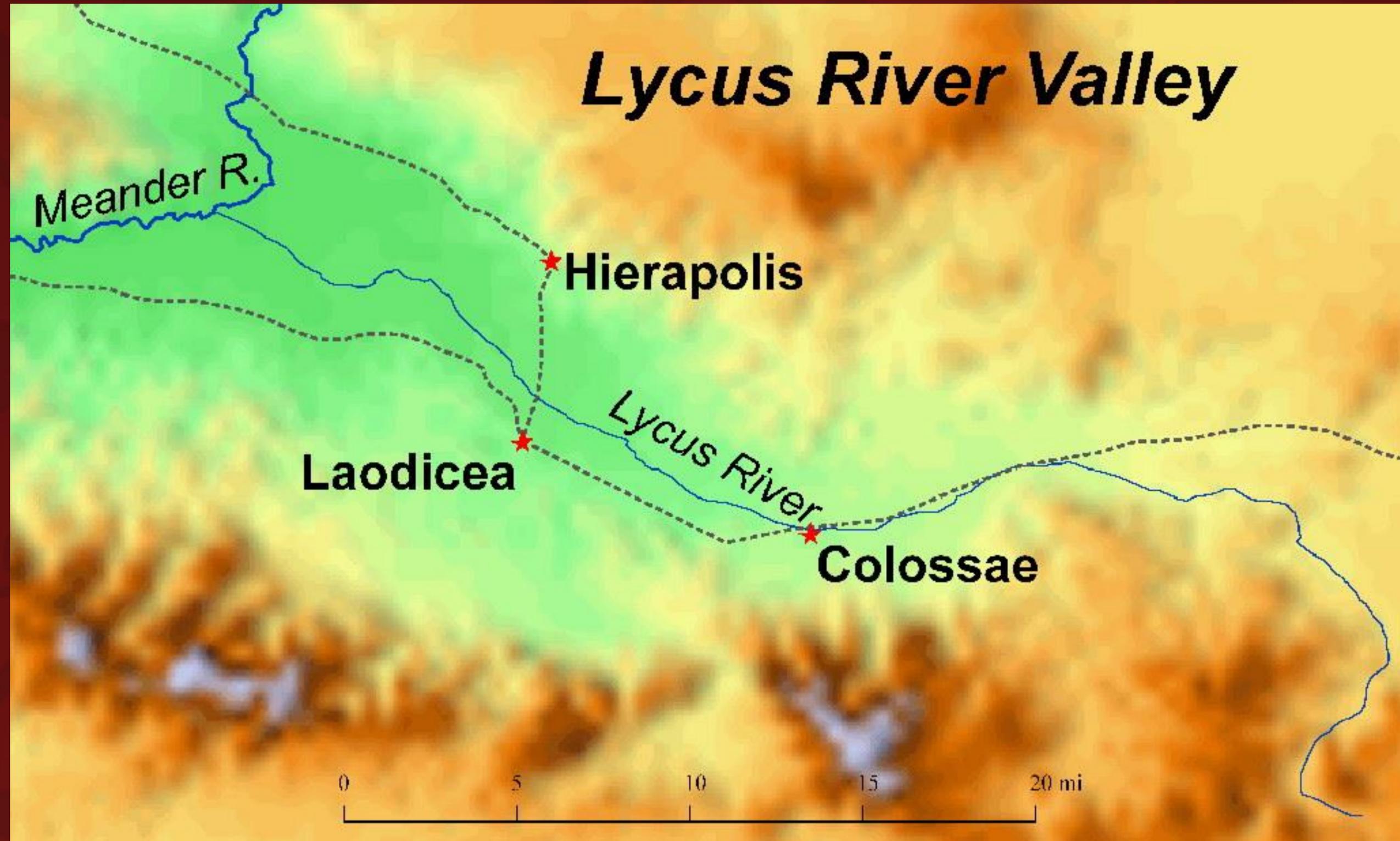
“I really enjoy the fruits of the labor from the volunteers of course, but the best part is truly witnessing volunteers when they realize that what they are doing isn't just ‘a couple hours of their time’ but rather an impact that is immeasurable.

What is so small to some is life-changing to others!”

<sup>3</sup> Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent.

Revelation 3:3a (NIV)

# *Lycus River Valley*



Meander R.

Hierapolis

Laodicea

Lycus River

Colossae

0 5 10 15 20 mi



<sup>14</sup> “To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation. <sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’

Revelation 3:14-17a (NIV)

But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.

Revelation 3:17b-20a (NIV)

If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. <sup>21</sup> To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Revelation 3:20b-22 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and **white clothes to wear**, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see . . . <sup>21</sup>  
To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to **sit with me on my throne**, just as I was victorious & sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup>  
Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Revelation 3:19, 21-22 (NIV)

## Blinded By Wealth

<sup>17</sup> You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.

Revelation 3:17 (NIV)

<sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

Revelation 3:16 (NIV)

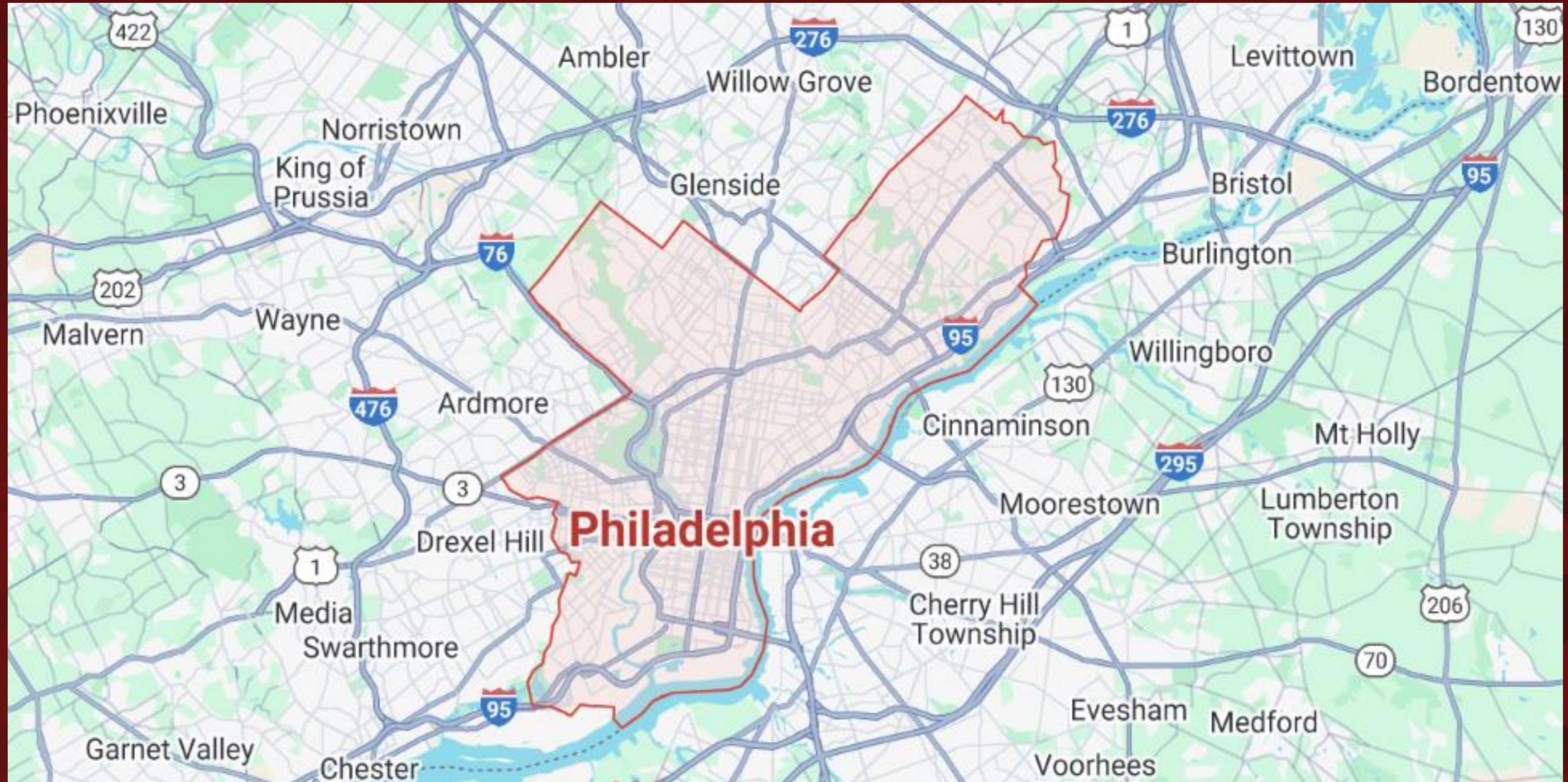
24 “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**

Matthew 6:24 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup> I counsel you **to buy from me gold** refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and **white clothes to wear**, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and **salve** to put on your eyes, so you can see.

Revelation 3:18 (NIV)

# Philadelphia PA -- In the USA



<sup>7</sup> “To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. <sup>8</sup> I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

Revelation 3:7-8 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup> Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

Revelation 3:9-10 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name.

Revelation 3:11-12 (NIV)

<sup>13</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Revelation 3:13 (NIV)

**11 I am coming soon.** Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. **12** The one who is victorious **I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.** Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of **the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God;** and I will also write on them my new name.

Revelation 3:11-12 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, **yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.**

<sup>10</sup> Since you have **kept my command to endure patiently,**

Revelation 3:8,10a (NIV)

<sup>11</sup> I am coming soon.

Revelation 3:11a (NIV)

<sup>7</sup> “Look, I am **coming soon!** Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.”

<sup>12</sup> “Look, I am **coming soon!**

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!”

<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am **coming soon.**” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
Revelation 22:7,12a,17a,20 (NIV)

The end time was inaugurated when Jesus rose from the dead and can reach consummation at any time.

## Exhortation Is Not Speculation

Christ could return during your lifetime,  
so be prepared. (Exhortation)

Christ will return during your lifetime,  
so be prepared. (Speculation)

<sup>7</sup> “Look, I am **coming soon!** Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy written in this scroll.” <sup>12</sup> “Look, I am **coming soon!** My reward is with me, and I will give to each person according to what they have done. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha & the Omega, the First & the Last, the Beginning & the End. <sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city.

Revelation 2:7,12-14 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let the one who hears say, “Come!” Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.

<sup>20</sup> He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Revelation 2:17, 20 (NIV)