



NEW COVENANT CHURCH



The
WORK
and the
LORD
of the Work

*I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you
an open door that no one can shut.*

Revelation 3:8

PASTOR BRYAN HUDSON, D.Min

Revelation 3:7

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, ‘These things says He who is holy, He who is true, “He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens”’: 8 “I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.”

Colossians 3:23-24 NKJV

And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for[a] you serve the Lord Christ

There is the **work of the Lord**, and then there is the **Lord of the work**.

The two do not necessarily go hand-in-hand.

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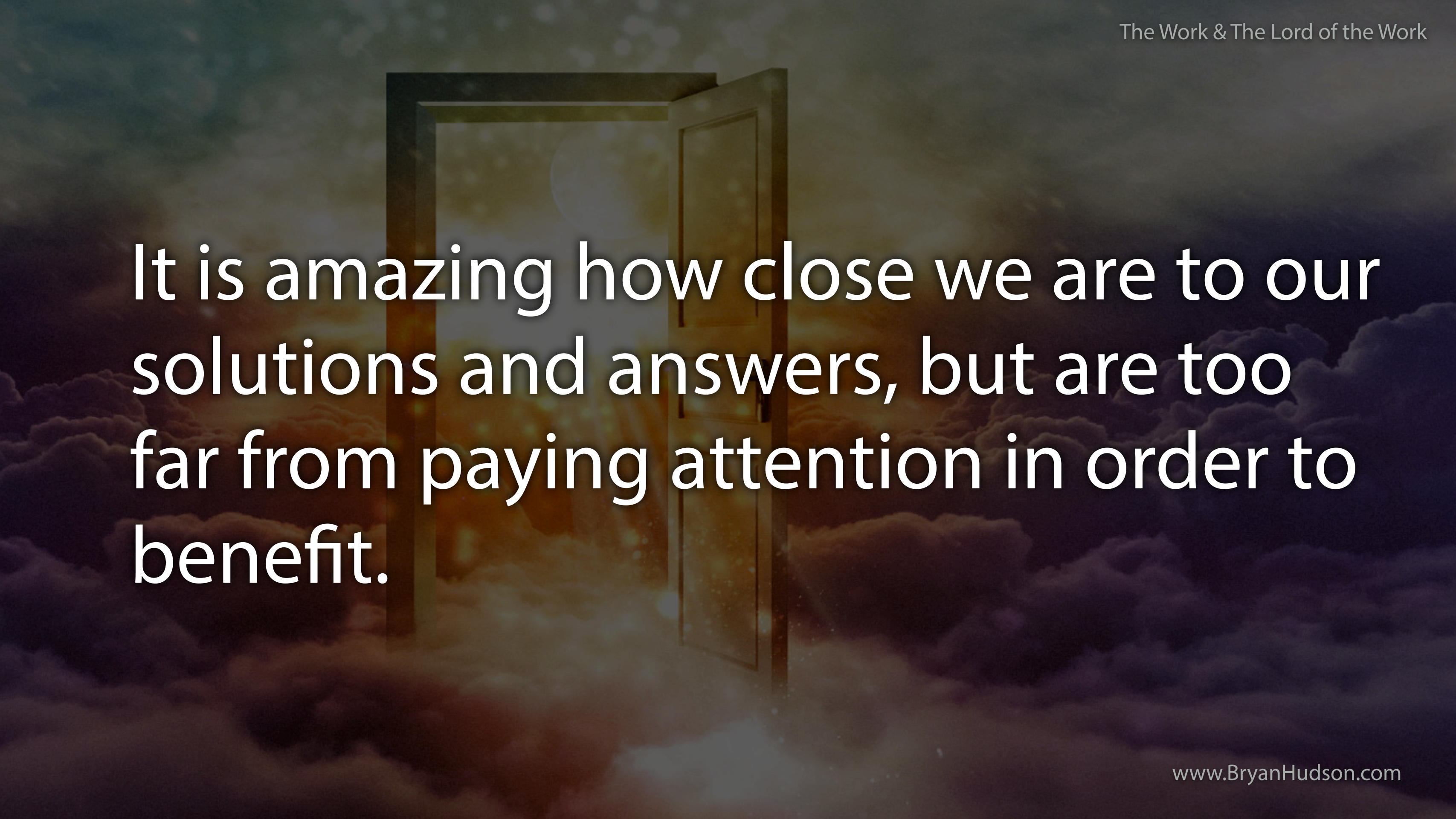
One of the downsides of having religion without relationship with Christ, is that one's focus is often misplaced.

The things that are truly important go neglected.

John 5:38-40,

But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.

*39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 **But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.***



It is amazing how close we are to our solutions and answers, but are too far from paying attention in order to benefit.

Let's talk about the church at Philadelphia.

Because of where it was situated, Philadelphia had been given an open door to spread Greek ideas in the lands beyond.

There had come to it another great missionary opportunity, to carry the message of the love of Jesus Christ to their world.

It is a truth that God, like the church at Philadelphia, will use you where you are, as you are.

The circumstances of your life, including your geography and your ethnicity, has a lot to do with what God has in mind for you, and what He will do through you.

There is the saying that goes,

"The grass is greener on the other side."

But that's until you're close enough to it to see that is full of green weeds, and it might be artificial turf you're looking at from a distance, or it simply might not be where you belong.

Revelation 3:9

Indeed I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you. 10 Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Revelation 3:11

Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown

Matthew 7:22

*Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' 23 And then I will declare to them, '**I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!**'*

Colossians 3:23-24 (Amplified Bible)

*Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. **It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve.***

- **People benefit through our service.**
- **But, it's not people we serve.**
- **It is the **Lord** whom we are actually serving.**

Affirmation:

The Work & the Lord of the Work

- God has opened a door to me, not only to do His work, but to draw closer to the Lord of the work.
- God has positioned me to serve His purpose using what I already have and will gain.
- I serve people, but I work for God.
- Jesus is Lord over me. Jesus is the Lord of my work.