

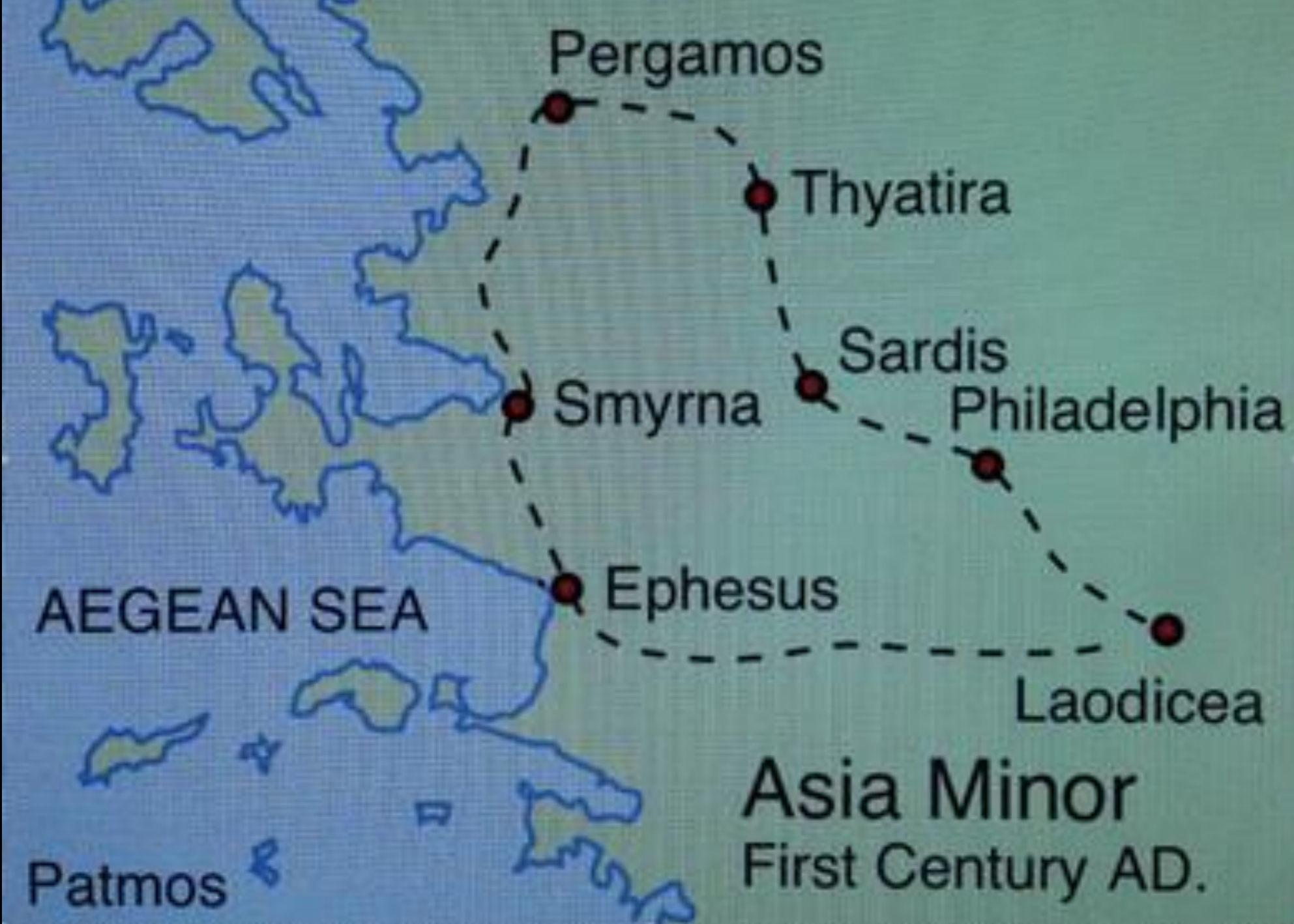


**SEVEN  
LETTERS  
TO THE CHURCH**

**A Sermon Series**







Pergamos

Thyatira

Smyrna

Sardis

Philadelphia

Ephesus

Laodicea

AEGEAN SEA

Patmos

Asia Minor  
First Century AD.



# Revelation 3:1-13

**3** “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. ‘I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die,

for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.

<sup>3</sup> Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. <sup>4</sup> Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments,

and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. <sup>6</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'



<sup>7</sup> 'And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: '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.

<sup>8</sup> 'I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power,

and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. <sup>9</sup> 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 they will learn that I have loved you.

<sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.””



*Providing consulting & training for high-risk occupations  
and speaking on leadership, ethics, stress, & creativity*

Home

Bio Info

## About Bill

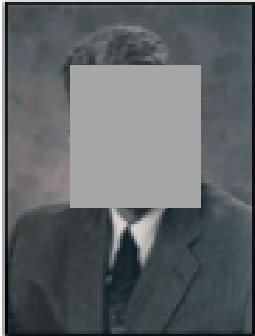
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William G. Hillar is a retired Colonel of the U.S. Army Special Forces. He has served in Asia, the Middle East, and Central and South America, where his diverse training and experiences included tactical counter-terrorism, explosive ordnance, emergency medicine and psychological warfare.

His military expertise led him not only to cross-train and serve with Special Forces from allied countries, but to advise governments and military organizations in several foreign nations. He holds a B.A. in Psychology, an M.A. in Education, a Ph.D. in Health Education, and an honorary doctorate in Intercultural Relations.

Hillar provides training and consultation to law enforcement, firefighters, and other first responder organizations where quick reaction and rapid recovery are essential for survival. Highly sought after as a speaker on leadership, ethics, stress, and creativity, his [clients' comments](#) are consistently full of respect and appreciation. Hillar's wisdom is imperative for anyone serving in civilian, government, and high-risk occupations.







WAKE UP!.....BEHOLD!

“Wake up, and strengthen what remains..... Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut.” Vs 2,8



## 1) Wake Up!

to your hypocrisy

¶ "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:  
'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God  
and the seven stars. "'I know your works. You have  
the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Vs 1



Wake Up!

Behold God Reigns

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: '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. Vs 7



I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.... All the glory of his family will hang on him:”

Isaiah 22:22





“I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

Revelation 1:18



## 2) Strengthen

what remains

Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. vs 2



Strengthen

your vision to the open door

'I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.'" vs 8



“On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had **opened the door** of faith to the Gentiles.” Acts 14

“I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, because **a great door for effective work has opened to me**, and there are many who oppose me.” 1 Corinthians 16

“..I went to Troas to preach the gospel of Christ and found that the **Lord had opened a door for me,...**” 2 Corinthians 2

“And pray for us, too, that **God may open a door for our message**, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.” Colossians 4





**“The church urgently needs Christians of apostolic zeal who will count all things loss for Christ, and hazard life, comfort, career, and reputation for him. The open doors are many but there are few to go through them.”**

**John Stott**



### **3) Hold Fast**

I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. 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. vs 11,12





**Your Chief, Andy,  
Inscribed His  
Name on Me**







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