



THE CHURCH

OF THE

- OPEN DOOR

REVELATION 3:7-13

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7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Revelation 3:7-13 - continued

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

Revelation 3:7-13 - continued

12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Introduction

A. The letter to the church at Philadelphia

1. Only praise from God

2. Great opportunities for service

B. The church of Philadelphia in practice and prophecy

1. True to the Scriptures and Savior

2. A picture of the faithful just before Christ's return

Ephesians 5:15-16

15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Introduction

What is the manner and message of Christ toward this church?

I. The Presentation of Christ To This Church

(v 7)

A. “He that is holy”

B. We’re to serve our holy God in an unholy world and show the Lordship of Christ

1 Peter 1:15-16

15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

16 Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

I. The Presentation of Christ To This Church

(v 7)

C. The last days are to be marked by a lack of holy living

1. Like the days of Noah and Lot (Luke 17:26-30)

2. Characterized by false teachers

2 Peter 2:1

But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

I. The Presentation of Christ To This Church

(v 7)

**C. The last days are to be marked by a lack of holy living
(continued)**

3. A time of moral decline

2 Timothy 3:1

**This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall
come.**

**D. “He that is true” – Our Lord is unchanged when
standards fall**

I. The Presentation of Christ To This Church

(v 7)

E. “He that hath the key of David”

1. He will come to reign on David’s throne

Luke 1:32

He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

I. The Presentation of Christ To This Church

(v 7)

E. “He that hath the key of David” - continued

2. He will bring peace to this troubled world

Isaiah 9:7

Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

II. The Promise Of Christ To This Church (v 8)

A. “I have set before thee an open door”

B. A faithful church had great opportunities for service

1. When Christ opens a door, none can close it

2. We will give an account of our service

Romans 14:12

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

II. The Promise Of Christ To This Church (v 8)

C. With even a little strength we can be effective for Him

1. God's power compensates for our weakness

2 Corinthians 12:10

Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

II. The Promise Of Christ To This Church (v 8)

**C. With even a little strength we can be effective for Him
(continued)**

**2. If we are faithful, He will keep doors open and
keep opening new doors**

1 Corinthians 16:9

**For a great door and effectual is opened unto me, and
there are many adversaries.**

Colossians 4:3

**Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us
a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for
which I am also in bonds:**

III. The Prospects For The Future Of This Church (vv 9-11)

- A. Even their enemies to respect them ultimately (v 9)**
- B. To be kept from the hour of trouble (v 10)**
- C. To be encouraged by the blessed hope of Christ's return (v 11)**
- D. Crowns for their faithfulness at the Judgment Seat of Christ (v 11)**

1 Peter 5:4

And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

III. The Prospects For The Future Of This Church (vv 9-11)

E. Rewards for overcomers (v 12)

1. Pillar in the temple

Matthew 23:11

But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant.

2. Sharing in the blessing of the New Jerusalem

Revelation 22:14

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

Is God Opening Doors In Your Life?

Will You Go Through Them?