

## Revelation 3:7-22

Wednesday Night Bible Study - 6-7-23

### The Church at Philadelphia (3:7-13)

Christ's self-introduction (v. 7)

- "Holy" - points to his \_\_\_\_\_
  - Isaiah's "Holy one of Israel"
  - Note: ID of Jesus as the "Holy one" in the gospels (Mark 1:24; Luke 4:34; John 6:69)
- "True" - points to Jesus being the true messiah who has begun to fulfill messianic prophecy
- "Has the key of David" (Isaiah 22:22)
  - An \_\_\_\_\_ of 1:18
    - Authority over life & death, salvation & judgment, who accesses the kingdom.

V. 8 - He has made a way to enter into the kingdom of God

- Importance: Christians were being \_\_\_\_\_ by the local Jewish community
  - "Synagogue of Satan"
    - Claimed to be true Israel, wielded great power/influence, but were liars
  - The church in Philadelphia is small and has "little power" (v. 8), but Jesus is the way

Vv. 9-12 - 4-fold reward for those who "have not denied his name" (v. 8), "kept My word of perseverance" (v. 10), "hold firmly to what you have" (v. 11), and "who overcome" (v. 12)

1. He will deal righteously with their persecutors (v. 9)
  - Proven wrong ("I will...make them know that I have loved you")
  - Cause to bow at their feet ("I will make them come and bow down before your feet")
    - Worship in Revelation is always something \_\_\_\_\_
    - The victory envisioned here is triumph and shared glory?
    - The perseverance of the church will have an \_\_\_\_\_ impact on their persecutors.
2. He will protect them (\_\_\_\_\_) from the tribulation to come (v. 10)
  - "Whole world" - either localized testing/trial (acceptable translation throughout the NT: Luke 2:1; Acts 11:28; 17:6; 19:27; 24:5, et. al.) or the final period of testing/trial leading up to the final events in world history ("hour" in Revelation generally points to final judgment)
  - The promise is **not** that they wouldn't have to endure \_\_\_\_\_ suffering
    - See Jesus in the Gospels (such as John 16:33) and Paul in the epistles (such as Rom. 8:35-39; II Cor. 4:16-5:10; Phil. 3:10; Col. 1:24, et. al.)
  - The promise is to be kept spiritually amidst trial
    - The only other place in the NT that uses *tereo ek* ("keep from") is John 17:15
      - John 17 - "keep them from" the spiritual reach of the evil one
      - Rev. 3:10 - "keep them from" spiritually safe in the world
    - Like John 16:33, the promise is of Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
  - The testing of God in the world has a double effect: judgment upon unbelievers and strength for the faithful (I Peter 1:6-7)
  - V. 11 - Christ himself comes
3. He will \_\_\_\_\_ establish them as the people of God (v. 12)
  - David's "1 thing" (Psalm 27:4)
  - Contrast God's eternal temple to the "synagogue of Satan"

4. He \_\_\_\_\_ them that they belong to God (v. 12)
- “Name” expresses:
    - Union with God and fellowship with his presence (see Ezek. 48:35)
    - Possession and character
    - “Seals” (See Eph. 1:13)
  - He has the “key to the sanctuary” (Isa. 22:22 → Revelation 7:15)
    - He will \_\_\_\_\_ what he has started

**Notes:**

**The Church at Laodicea (3:14-22)**

**City** (history)

**Church** (v. 17)

No fresh water

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (v. 16)

Eye medicine

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Black wool

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Wealth

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”

Jesus’ self- introduction (v. 14):

- “The Amen, the faithful and true Witness”
  - Reference to Isaiah 65:16-17
  - In his resurrection, Christ is the “ \_\_\_\_\_ ” (ἀρχή, *arche*)
- They need what only he can provide: new \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus offers (v. 18)

- True \_\_\_\_\_ (pure gold, see II Cor. 8:9)
- True \_\_\_\_\_ (white robes)
- True spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ (eye salve)
- We obtain these treasures (v. 18, 2x) “from him,” the one who (v. 20) “stands at the door and knocks,” ready to come in once invited.
  - They may be indifferent toward him, but he is not indifferent toward them
  - He is patient, but eagerly waiting for them to accept his (v. 19) loving correction and “turn from their indifference.”

**Notes:**