

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Revelation 3:7-13**.
- B. Only two of the seven churches of Asia do not have any condemnation from X, only encouragement. The church at Philadelphia is one of them.
- C. Let us take a look at the wonderful, encouraging message given to these brethren.

I. VERSE SEVEN.

“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:”

- A. Jesus has the key to open the door of all blessings and if He opens it, man cannot shut it. Or, if He closes it man cannot open it.
- B. Jesus has given “a blank check” or open door to the church at Philadelphia.

II. VERSE EIGHT.

‘I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.’

- A. We cannot mock Jesus, He knows our deeds.
- B. He gives a three step plan for being faithful:
 - 1. Having a little power (being humble, because the true power is in Jesus).
 - 2. Having kept my Word (they were knowledgeable of right/wrong to be able to keep it).
 - 3. Had not denied X’s name (even in the midst of trouble they were faithful).

III. VERSE NINE.

‘Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews, and are not, but lie-- behold, I will make them to come and bow down at your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

- A. Here the trouble is defined.
- B. All of those who do not give allegiance to Christ, Jesus will make to worship Him. (This includes all atheists and wrong-doers.)

IV. VERSE TEN.

‘Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell upon the earth.’

- A. I may not know the meaning of the testing that is to come on these people but I do know of the promise that is contained in the book.
- B. The promise here is the same as given by Paul in 1Cor. 10:13.

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.
- C. Jesus will protect us from those things we cannot bear, and help us to endure all things.

V. VERSE ELEVEN.

‘I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, in order that no one take your crown.’

- A. Jesus is coming quickly to take care of the ungodly people and give salvation to the faithful.
- B. Xians have a crown to wear that they will receive on the final day. The NASB on 2Tim. 4:8 is incorrect and should be, “henceforth” and not “future.”

in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.
- C. Xians have a crown of life in the same way they have eternal life; in prospect (1Jn. 5:12; 2:25).

(1Jn 5:12) He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.

(1Jn 2:25) And this is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life.

VI. VERSE TWELVE.

‘He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write upon him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.’

- A. The promise is always fulfilled to the overcomer of tribulation, persecution, and sin.
- B. The blessing here is that we will belong to God, and have the right to wear His name.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. We want everyone to have the crown spoken of in 3:11.
- B. We also want everyone to overcome the sin that is in their lives.
- C. Plan of salvation for the non-Xians, erring-Xians.