

Humbly Walking Through Open Doors

Revelation 3:7-13

Background to the City of Philadelphia:

The **description of Christ** in verse seven: **Authoritative Lord**.

- ⇒ He who is holy
- ⇒ He who is true
- ⇒ He who has the key of David (Isaiah 22:22)

1. Jesus is the One who opens and shuts doors. 8

Promise: Open doors to the kingdom and to opportunity
(John 10:9, Rev.3:20, 1 Cor.16:8-9, Col.4:3)

Encouragement:

- a) We really have very little power. (2 Cor.12:9)
- b) We must keep His Word. (John 14:23-24)
- c) We must not deny his Name. (Matthew 10:32-33)

2. Jesus is the One who will vindicate. 9

3. Jesus is the One who rescues from Tribulation. 10

Eschatology = the study of the end times

There will be a specific and set time (7 years) of tribulation (“*hour of testing*”), also referred to as Daniel’s Seventieth Week (Daniel 9:25-27) and the time of Jacob’s trouble (Jeremiah 30:7).

The Rapture (1 Thess.4:13-17) and seven year Tribulation

- ⇒ Pre-Tribulation Rapture (before the 7 years)
- ⇒ Mid-Tribulation Rapture (3½ years into the tribulation)
- ⇒ Post Tribulation Rapture (after the 7 years)

Arguments in favor of a pre-tribulation rapture of the church:

- a) The meaning of “*keep from*”.
- b) The church is referred to 19 times in chapters 1-3 and not once in chapters 4-19.
- c) Those who “ *dwell on the earth*” is a technical term in Revelation for unbelievers.

4. Jesus is the One who is coming again quickly! 11

The **promise of Christ** in verses twelve:

- ⇒ Stability and permanence – *a pillar in the temple*
- ⇒ His child and His character – *write on him the name*