

“Seven: Hope from Jesus in Revelation”
(Part 7)
The Sixth Letter: To the Church in Philadelphia
Sunday, March 31st, 2019

Revelation 1:6-8 (NLT)

6He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.

7Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven.

And everyone will see him—

even those who pierced him.

And all the nations of the world

will mourn for him.

Yes! Amen!

8“I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end,” says the Lord God. “I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One.”

Revelation 3:7-13 (NLT)

7“Write this letter to the angel of the church in Philadelphia.

This is the message from the one who is holy and true,

the one who has the key of David.

What he opens, no one can close;

and what he closes, no one can open:

8“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed

my word and did not deny me. 9Look, I will force those who belong to Satan's synagogue—those liars who say they are Jews but are not—to come and bow down at your feet. They will acknowledge that you are the ones I love.

10“Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world. 11I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crown. 12All who are victorious will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. And I will write on them the name of my God, and they will be citizens in the city of my God—the new Jerusalem that comes down from heaven from my God. And I will also write on them my new name. 13“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.

THREE EFFECTS OF DISCOURAGEMENT:

- 1. Discouragement can make me blind to opportunity.**
- 2. Discouragement can make me vulnerable to weakness.**
- 3. Discouragement can prevent me from seeing my own worth.**

THREE PROMISES FOR US TO HOLD ONTO:

1. Jesus replaces closed doors with open doors.

Revelation 3:7b-8a

This is the message from the one who is holy and true, the one who has the key of David.

What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open:

8 "I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close.

2. Jesus will replace your weakness with strength.

Revelation 3:8b,10-11

You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.

10 "Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world. 11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take away your crown.

12 All who are victorious will become pillars in the Temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. (Rev. 3:12a)

3. Jesus replaces rejection with respect.

Revelation 3:9

9Look, I will force those who belong to Satan's synagogue—those liars who say they are Jews but are not—to come and bow down at your feet. They will acknowledge that you are the ones I love.

Revelation 3:13

13“Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.

1. Who am I listening to?

2. Am I looking at the closed doors or the open doors in my life?