



## Letter to the Church in Philadelphia Revelation 3:7-13

“To the angel of the Church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of him who is **holy** and **true**, who **holds the key of David**. What **he opens** no one can shut, and what **he shuts** no one can open. **8** I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have **kept my word** and **have not denied my name**. **9** I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. **10** Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. **11** I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. **12** The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. **13** Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

**v.7** “These are the words of him who is **holy** and **true**, who **holds the key of David**. What **he opens** no one can shut, and what **he shuts** no one can open.”

### I. He is Holy

1. **Ceremonial** - set apart for God’s use. Separate. Could refer to angels or people. Does not refer to purity but to be set apart for his use and purpose.
2. **Moral** – Pure or Purity.

**Leviticus 11:44** “*I am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be **holy**, because **I am holy**. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.*”

**I Peter 1:16** “*for it is written: “Be **holy**, because **I am holy**.”*”

### II. He is True. (Genuine)

- Our English word for true comes from two different Greek words.
- a. Correct. Opposite of false.
  - b. Genuine or not fake.

### III. He holds the key of David.

Goes back to a Messianic verse -

**Isaiah 22:22** *"I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open."*

**v8** **"I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.**

**He knows our deeds – actions.**

**He opens doors that no one can close.**

**He knows we are weak - have little strength.**

Revival always begins with one person.

**He knows you have "kept my word"**. Guarding my message. Defend the gospel.

**2 Timothy 4:2** *"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction."*

**You have not denied my Name.**

**1 Timothy 4:1-2** *"The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. <sup>2</sup> Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron."*

**Matthew 24:12** *"Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold."*

**v10** "Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth."

**What?** Most Bible scholars believe this refers to the great tribulation.

Did God make this promise only to this church? **No.**

**The Rapture - catching of His church.**

Pre-tribulation

Mid-tribulation - 3 1/2 years

Post-tribulation

**Reasons in this verse for a pre-tribulation rapture**

**v10** "Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, (past tense) I will also **keep** you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth."

**v11** **"I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown."**

**James 1:3** "The testing of your faith produces endurance."

**Are we a people of Faith?**