

## STUDYING THE BOOK OF REVELATION THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST (9)

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### REVELATION 3 Message to Philadelphia

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**Revelation 3:7-13**  
King James Version (KJV)

*7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;*

*8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.*

*9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.*

*10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.*

*11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.*

*12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.*

*13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*



**3:7-13 Philadelphia** was a faithful church in a small town that was established to be a center for Greek culture. The town was renowned for its surrounding vineyard but subject to frequent earthquakes.

**3:7** The **key of Day** symbolizes authority (see 5:5; 22:16; Is. 22:22)

**3:8 An open door:** Either of service and evangelistic opportunity (1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 2:12), or of entrance into the consummated kingdom.

**3:10 I also will keep thee** is the Lord's assurance that according to John 17:6, 11, 12, 15. He is able to preserve His people from the hour of temptation, the climactic trial, which has been, and will continue to be anticipated through many historical manifestations (including such times as Jesus prophesied in Matt. 24:21, 22. Them that dwell upon the earth describe humankind in opposition to God (6:10; 8:13,11; 11:10; 13:3; 8 12, 14:3, 6; 17:2, 8).

**DISPENSATIONAL INTERPRETATION:** The church will be raptured before the Great Tribulation period (see note on 1 Thess. 4:17). Christians do suffer and will continue to suffer persecution and tribulation in general, but God's **I also will keep thee from** [Greek "out of"] **the hour of temptation** is a clear, literal promise to believers for deliverance from the coming Great Tribulation (6:1-19:10). It does not indicate preservation in, but a complete exemption from, the Earth's final distresses.

**3:11 I come quickly** is a warning to the oppressors, and an encouragement to the oppressed.

**3:12** A city often honored a notable citizen by erecting a pillar in a temple with his name inscribed on it. Thus, the Lord will honor His faithful permanently (go no more out) by inscribing on then the name of my God, of the new Jerusalem, and of Christ, indicating identification with and possession by God, a spiritual citizenship, and a reflection of the character of Christ.

**3:13 Listen** to what the Spirit is saying to the church. When forced to choose, **obey** God, not man... **to be cont'd.**



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