

SERMON OUTLINE

In Revelation 3:7-13 we are shown Christ commending the faithful church in Philadelphia with 7 comforting truths.

- I. I am God (v. 7a).
- II. I am sovereign over salvation (v. 7b, 8b).
- III. I am aware of your faithfulness (v. 8a, c).
- IV. I am sovereign over your enemies (v. 9).
- V. I am able to sustain you in trial (v. 10).
- VI. I am coming soon (v. 11).
- VII. I am the one who saves completely (vs. 12-13).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, June 10, 2018

Passage: Revelation 3:7-13

Memory Passage: Revelation 3:10

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 3:7-13, Is. 22:15-25, & Is. 9:6-7.** Explain what happens in Isaiah 22:15-25, how this relates to Isaiah 9:6, and what all of this has to do with the imagery in Revelation 3:7, 8, 12.

(b) Why is Jesus' description of Himself as "the holy one, the true one" important (cf. "Holy one of Israel" used of Yahweh 31x in OT, 26 of these in Isaiah, Mark 1:24, John 6:69)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 3:7-13.** What "works" of the Philadelphian church does Jesus "know?"

(b) To what does "an open door, which no one is able to shut" refer: missionary work (cf. Acts 14: 27, 1 Cor. 16:9; 2 Cor. 2:12) or the kingdom of heaven? Support your answer!

(c) In what ways did this church have "but little power," and how does this affect their works (notice "and yet" in v. 8)?

(d) In what ways does the 21st century church have "but little power," and how does this empower us for fruitful ministry?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 3:7-13.** Why does Jesus call the Jews in Philadelphia "those of the synagogue of Satan" (cf. 2:9)?

(b) In what ways do these same Jews "lie?"

(c) **Read Is. 60:1-14.** Explain what is happening in these verses and when it happens.

(d) What is the significant difference between Revelation 3:9 and Isaiah 60:14 and why is this difference important?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 3:7-13.** Does "whole world" refer to the entire earth (cf. Rev. 12:9 & 16:14) or to a limited geographical area (cf. Luke 2:1, Acts 11:28, 17:6, et. al.)?

(b) When will this "hour of trial" occur, and who will be tested (notice the other uses of "those who dwell on the earth" in Revelation: 6:10; 8:13; 11:10; 13:8, 12, 14; 14:6; 17:2, 8)?

(c) What does the phrase "I will keep you from the hour of trial" promise (cf. the only other NT use of this Greek phrase, $\tau\eta\rho\acute{\epsilon}\ \omega\ \acute{\epsilon}\ \kappa$) in John 17:15)? Is it a removal from the trial or a sustaining in the midst of the trial (cf. John 16:33, Rom. 8:35-39, 2 Cor. 5:16-5:10, Phil. 3:10, Col. 1:24, et. al.)?

(d) What is the crown that is mentioned in v. 11, and how can someone steal it from those in Philadelphia?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Rev. 3:7-13.** Are the blessings to conquerors different blessings or different ways of referring to the same thing?

(b) How does v. 12 connect with the rest of the message to Philadelphia?

(c) Christ has no condemnation for Philadelphia (along with Smyrna). How might the 21st-century bring the same types of challenges to the Bible Church as Philadelphia had, and how will we conquer in the midst of them so as to receive commendation without condemnation?

(d) In what ways might BCC respond to current and upcoming challenges that would bring condemnation instead of commendation from Christ?

(e) In what ways are the promises in v. 12 an encouragement to you as you persevere daily in obedience to Christ?

DATE: June 10, 2018

PASSAGE: Revelation 3:7-13

To Philadelphia