

To the Church in Philadelphia—Revelation 3:7–13

Open It

1. What are some examples of progress we've seen in the last ten years?
2. What groups would you cite as the biggest present-day enemies of the church?

Revelation 3:7–13 (ESV)

⁷“And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens.

⁸“ ‘I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

⁹Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie— behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you.

¹⁰Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown.

¹²The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

¹³He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

Explore It

3. What did Christ say about His power? (3:7)
4. By what descriptions or names did Jesus call those who claimed to be Jews? (3:9)
5. What humbling act did Jesus say He would force the enemies of the church of Philadelphia to perform? (3:9)
6. Why will the world experience an “hour of trial”? (3:10)
7. What was promised to the church at Philadelphia because of its patient endurance? (3:10)
8. How did Jesus instruct the believers in Philadelphia to prepare for His coming? (3:11)
9. What did Jesus promise at the conclusion of this letter? (3:11–12)
10. How did Jesus challenge us? (3:11–13)
11. What promises were made to “him who conquers (overcomes)” in Philadelphia? (3:12)

Get It

12. What can we do to prepare for Christ's return?
13. Why can we rejoice even when we are persecuted by hostile anti-God forces?

Apply It

14. Where can you go for the encouragement you need to keep walking with Christ in a hostile world?