

## B. Positive Consequences (12-13)

- i. I will make a pillar in the temple of my God

- ii. I will write on them three names.

- a) God is claiming them as his own.
- b) They are claimed as citizens of the heavenly city.
- c) Christ's new name.

*Never mind what the synagogue leaders did, Christ has given them a prestigious and permanent place in the true temple and has set his seal of ownership upon them!*

### LIVE THE STORY

*The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- How does the experience of the church in Philadelphia continue the Biblical theme of sibling rivalry? Why is that ironic in that place?
- Are the promises given to the saints in Philadelphia made to all professing believers or is there a requirement?
- What are the ways your faith is put to the test? What does faithfulness look like for you in that situation?
- Do you ever find it tempting to have a private faith rather than a public faith? How might our culture press us toward a private faith?
- What are some ways in which our faithfulness to Christ calls us to a public faith? What are bad ways to be "public" in our faith?
- How might this message to Philadelphia help us be ready for what may lay ahead for us? How might it set our expectations?
- How might these seven prophetic messages, and this one to Philadelphia in particular, adjust how we assess the health of a church?

## The Revelation of Jesus Christ Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World (8) *Brotherly Hatred in the City of Brotherly Love* Jerry Cisar — November 6, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:7-13

### Introduction: A Tale of Two Brothers

#### I. Christ's Credentials (3:7)

- A. To the angel of the church in Philadelphia

- i. What is happening in Philadelphia?

- ii. The older brother has booted out the younger.

- B. The Holy One (7)

- i. "Thus says the Holy One."

- a) Isaiah 30:12 LXX

- b) Isaiah 30:15 LXX

- ii. The phrase "Holy One" or "Holy One of Israel" occurs 30 times (NIV) in Isaiah.

- C. The True One

- i. He is the faithful one.

- ii. He is the True One, as opposed to the false.

- D. The One Holding the Key of David

- i. The key to the house of David (Isaiah 22: 15-17, 19-22).
  - a) Keys

b) Eliakim foreshadows Christ.

- *Eliakim* was a father.... The *child born* is the be called everlasting Father (Isa. 9:6).
- On *Eliakim's shoulder* will be placed the key of the house of David and with *the promised child*, "the government will be on his *shoulder*" (Isa. 9:6).
- Eliakim had authority over Hezekiah's palace, Christ has all authority over God's kingdom: *who comes in and goes out*.

ii. No one, including the synagogue ruler, can shut them out.

## II. Christ's Commendation (3:8-10)

A. "I know your deeds."

B. Promise #1: An Open Door (8b)

- i. What is this open door?
- ii. This is the door to the messianic kingdom, the heavenly city, the true people of God.
  - a) Rev. 1:9
  - b) Jesus is the one with the key to the house of David, not the synagogue ruler.

C. Back to the commendation: "That you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name."

D. Promise #2: I will vindicate you before them (9)

- i. Isa. 60:1-2
- ii. Isaiah 60:14

E. Commendation and 3<sup>rd</sup> Promise (10)

- i. "Since you have kept the word of the endurance of mine."
  - a) "kept My word about endurance"
  - b) "kept the word about My endurance"
- ii. "I will also keep you...."
  - a) What is the scope?
    - Luke 2:1
    - Acts 11:28
  - b) What is the timing?
  - c) How will He keep them?
    - John 17:11, 14-15

## III. Christ's Critique

## IV. Christ's Corrective (3:11ab)

- A. "Keep doing what you are doing!"
- B. "I am coming soon"

## V. Christ's Consequences (3:11c-13)

A. Negative Consequence (3:11c)