**Revelation 3:7-13 The Faithful Church**

**MAIN: Faithfulness impresses God – Mt. 25:21**

**You are close to God when you are faithful to God**

**Pr. 15:8-9; Jn. 14:21-23; 15:9-10, 14**

**Philadelphia: “City of brotherly love” plagued by earthquakes and persecution**

**1. Vision of Jesus**

**“Holy and true” Doesn’t compromise truth and is faithful**

**“Key of David”**

* **The authority and responsibility of the Davidic House: Isa. 22:22; 2 Sam. 7:12-16; Lk. 1:32-33**
* **The royal right to give reward**
* **You want our church to make an impact? Here you go!**

**2. Commendation and Reward: Revelation: Revelation 3:8-10**

**Open door may well = Opportunity**

**Why?**

* **Their strength was small (Probably in numbers); They needed help.**
* **They obeyed His word and**
* **They had not denied His name.**
* **Likely v. 10a is with 9 (John’s normal sentence structures).**
* **“Synagogue of Satan” = Jews who were antagonistic to Christians**
* **“Worship” – “To express in attitude or gesture ones complete dependance on or submission to a high authority figure; (fall down and) worship; prostrate, do reverence to; welcome respectfully”**
* **“To know that I have loved you” - VINDICATION!! Isa. 49:23; 60:14**

**“Hour of testing”**

* **Tribulation or a period of time the Roman Empire was about to undergo.**
* **God’s special love is involved in limiting what they would have to endure!**
* **1 Cor. 10:13; Rev. 2:24; 2:8-11 (His treatment of them)**
* **God has a special love toward obedient believers! John 14:21-23; Prov. 15:8-9**

**3. Condemnation: NONE!**

**4. Advice: Revelation 3:11**

* **“Hold fast” Rewards are not automatic for all believers, but this is works or merit based; 2 Cor. 5:10-11; Rev. 22:12**
* **“Quickly” from God’s perspective**
* **Also, because the Pre-tribulation rapture is true, it could have and can occur at any time.**
* **“Don’t allow anyone to ruin your chance to enjoy joint-heirship with Jesus Christ!” 2 Tim. 2:12**
* **“Take your crown” - May relate to James 1:12 = You get the crown of life when you persevere in trial. “You’ve been faithful. Stay with it!**

**Comments on rewards**

**5. Promise to the Overcomer: Revelation 3:12 – Intimacy forever**

**“Pillar” Revelation 21:22!!! Nearness to God, position of support and prominence; a “fixture” in My home.**

* **A “pillar” in Scripture often referred to one with a prominent position (Gal. 2:9)! Overcomers are already promised rule (2:25-27). So…**
* **Since they are “in the temple,” it may be leading worship as priest-kings.**

**“Shall go out no more” = Permanent home, close to God; a special relationship that will never end!**

**“Write on him” = Eternal I.D.s; Tattoos**

**“The name of My God…name of the City of My God…My new name”**

* **Who we belong to, where we belong, the relationship we have = intimacy**
* **“Everyone will know that you are Mine!”**
* **Everyone will know whose we are, where we belong, and the special relationship with have with Jesus!**