

REMAINING FAITHFUL (Rev. 3:7-13)

I. The Address (Rev. 3:7)

A. To the *angelos* (“MESSENGER” or *angel*) of the CONGREGATION at Philadelphia

1. Name means “BROTHERLY LOVE” (Rom. 12:10; 1 Thes. 4:9; Heb. 13:1; 1 Pet. 1:22; 2 Pet. 1:7*a, b*)
2. History of being DESTROYED by EARTHQUAKE
3. Last city in region to FALL to ISLAM
4. Located at GATEWAY to the central plateau of ASIA MINOR

B. From Christ, the SOVEREIGN GOD

1. “He who is HOLY” or “completely OTHER”
2. “He who is TRUE” or “completely RIGHTEOUS”
3. “He who has the KEY of DAVID” or “completely SOVEREIGN” (Isa. 22:22)
 - a. Doors He OPENS cannot be SHUT
 - b. Doors He SHUTS cannot be OPENED

II. The Commendation (Rev. 3:8-9)

A. Christ had put before them an OPEN door no one could SHUT

1. Possibly an OPPORTUNITY for MISSIONS
2. Probably an ENTRANCE to the KINGDOM

- B. They were WEAK but FAITHFUL
 - 1. “You have [but] a LITTLE POWER”
 - 2. “You ... have KEPT My WORD”
 - 3. “You ... have not DENIED My NAME”
- C. Their FAITH would be vindicated, even by their ENEMIES

III. The Condemnation: NONE

IV. The Encouragement (Rev. 3:10-13)

- A. Promised personal DELIVERANCE for the FAITHFUL (3:10-11)
 - 1. He acknowledged their PERSEVERANCE
 - 2. He would deliver them from the “HOUR of TESTING” when He will JUDGE all EARTH – DWELLERS
 - 3. He will come SUDDENLY for His own
 - 4. He will reward the DILIGENT with a VICTOR’S CROWN
- B. Promised a REWARD for the FAITHFUL (3:12-13)
 - 1. He will be identified with Christ’s INFINITE GREATNESS as a “PILLAR in the TEMPLE of My God”
 - 2. He will be identified with Christ’s INVINCIBLE GOVERNMENT when “I WRITE on him the NAME of My God, and ...” His city
 - 3. He will be identified with Christ’s INHERENT GLORY when “I WRITE on him ... MY NEW NAME”