

Faithful in Weakness, Crowned in Glory

November 23, 2025 | Revelation 3:7-13



Observation: What is happening here?

- **v. 7:** Christ speaks to the church in Philadelphia. He identifies Himself as the One who has the *Holy one, the True one* who has the *key of David*. This is to show His authority to open and shut doors, not anyone else.
- **v. 8:** Jesus knows their works and has set before them an *open door* which **no one** can shut. Though they have *little power* (weak by worldly standards), they have *kept His word* and *not denied His name*. Christ commends their faithfulness despite weakness.
- **v. 9:** Those of the "*synagogue of Satan*" are those who claim to be Jews but *lie*; they are not. Jesus will make them *bow down* before the church / believers. They will acknowledge that He has *loved* this faithful community.
- **vv. 10-11:** Because they have kept His word about *patient endurance*, Christ will keep them from the *hour of trial* (judgement / testing) coming.
 - He calls them to *hold fast* (remain) to what they have so that no one takes their *crown*.
- **vv. 12-13:** The one who conquers will be made a *pillar in the temple of God*. They will never go out of it, and will bear the *name of God*, the *name of the new Jerusalem*, and *Christ's new name*. The letter ends with, "*He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*"

Scriptures: Revelation 3:7-13; Isaiah 22:22; Luke 11:5-13; Isaiah 60:14; Isaiah 43:4; Luke 22:53; James 1:12; Galatians 2:9; Isaiah 65:17-19.

Ontario Community Church: Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.
John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life."

Interpretation: What can we learn?

Only Jesus can open and close the door

- Christ alone controls access to the house. No one comes to the Father except through Him.
- Human power cannot stop what He opens or open what He shuts.
- He has full authority over our lives and our future.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:7-8; Isaiah 22:22; First John 5:20.*

When we are weak, He provides a way

- God stands with us when our strength is small. When we are weak, God is strong and is always there with us.
- The world may seem powerful, but it is not stronger than Christ. Even liars, deceivers or evildoers may try to sway us, may we stand firm in Christ.
- He creates a way through trials that seem impossible. Nothing is impossible for our Lord and our God.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:8-10; Luke 11:5-13; Isaiah 60:14; Isaiah 43:4.*

Endurance brings forth rewards in the city of God

- Faithfulness in trials leads to honor; crown, name, pillar, just to name a few.
- Christ remembers those who remain steadfast. May we stand firm in Him.
- Our hope is the new heaven, new earth, and life with Him forever.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:10-12; James 1:12; Galatians 2:9; Isaiah 65:17-19.*

Application: How should we live?

Seek Christ, the Holy and True One

- Begin by knowing Christ personally. This is the most important decision on earth and in heaven. Salvation is the greatest reward Christ gives.
- Ask, seek, and knock: He responds to those who come to Him. Let us respond!
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:7-8; Luke 11:9-13; Psalm 27:8.*

Remain in Him. Be a pillar and crowned with life

- Grow in His Word and stay grounded in His truth. Be on a journey in Him.
- Do not be moved by culture or opposition. Christ is our firm foundation.
- Respond with Christ-like love, even to those who resist you.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:10-12; James 1:12; Isaiah 65:17-19; John 15:4.*

Show others the door Christ provides for all

- Use the open door to serve people and share hope.
- **Consider:** *Who can you share Christ with this week?*
- Look for one person this week to encourage in Christ.
- Let your life point to the One who opens the door for all; words and action.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:8; First Peter 3:15; Colossians 4:2-3.*

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