

**Seven - Philadelphia
(Hold On)
Revelation 3:7-13
August 22, 2021**

1. The term holy that meant _____, set apart from us wholly other- yet making Himself known to us, _____
(John 14:6, John 1:14)

2. The word true carries with it the idea of _____. Jesus would remain faithful to this church and these Christians when everyone else _____
_____from them.

3. The One who holds the keys of David literally means to _____, who alone has the authority to deem who enters and who stays out.
(John 6:37, 10:28, Luke 13:24-25)

4. Just like Smyrna who was _____, Philadelphia is _____!
(Eph. 6:10, Eph 1:19-20, Ps. 121:1)

5. It's not that we will suffer for the name of Christ but _____.

6. Four lessons about suffering
 - a. There is a response to suffering that _____ God
 - b. There is a response to suffering that _____ God
 - c. Suffering is a _____ where _____
 - d. Suffering is also a place where faith _____

7. We choose what happens to our faith- we choose to be at _____
when we are at _____.
(Rev 3:9b, Phil 2:9-11, Rev 3:10, John 17:15)

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. Many Christians at Philadelphia had probably been expelled from the local Jewish synagogue (see v. 9). In that light, why would Jesus' words in Rev. 3:7-8 be especially meaningful to them? What helps you latch on to Christ's acceptance when you face the world's rejection?

2. Sometimes Christians are rejected by the world for legitimate reasons (e.g., insisting that Jesus is the only way to God), while at other times we are rejected for all the wrong reasons (e.g., being obnoxious). How can we make sure that when we are rejected, it is for the right reasons?

3. Jesus promises to reverse the situation for the Christians at Philadelphia (3:9). When you are being rejected, what helps you endure and respond in a Christlike way as you wait for God to bring justice, rather than taking revenge yourself?

4. Jesus promises to protect us spiritually from the "hour of trial" (see John 17:15). Why do some Christians prefer an "exemption" theology (removal from trouble), rather than an "endurance" theology?

5. Jesus offers the most promises to the "weakest" congregation. How has God shown himself powerful during your times of weakness?