The Seven Churches of Revelation #7 February 1, 2023

PHILADELPHIA: THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH GREAT FAITH

(Revelation 3:7-13)

- A. The Vision of the Glorified Christ (1:9-20)
- **B.** The Church at Ephesus (2:1-7)
- C. The Church at Smyrna (2:8-11)
- D. The Church at Pergamos (2:12-17)
- E. The Church at Thyatira (2:18-29)
- **F.** The Church at Sardis (3:1-5)
- G. The Church at Philadelphia (3:7-13)
 - The city of Philadelphia was 28 miles southeast of Sardis; its strategic ______ opened it up to the coastal plains and merged trade routes of Mysia, Lydia, and Phrygia. Because of its location it was often referred to as the "______ to the ______." (v. 7a)
 - 2. Jesus states four things about Himself in verse 7b...
 - a. He is *"holy"* -meaning He is ______ and righteous in His ______, His words, His ______, and His purposes.
 - b. He is *"true"* -underscoring that He is always ______ and _____. (Rev. 6:10)
 - c. He has the *"key of David"* -this seems to be an allusion to Isaiah 22:22; Jesus is the ultimate fulfillment and rightful ______ to David's ______.
 - d. He opens doors and no one shuts them, and He shuts doors and no one opens them -this speaks of His divine ______ and _____. (Isa. 22:22)
 - 3. Christ commends this church that despite the fact that they have little strength, they have faithfully ______ His Word and ______ denied His name; consequently, He has opened doors of ______ for them. (v. 8)

- 4. In His closing encouragement Christ gives the Christians four promises...
 - a. PROMISE #1 Because you are saved, you do ______ need to fear opposition from men, for one day the Lord will ______ identify with you and ______ His _____. (v. 9)

* How should verses 9 & 10a be translated into English?

b. PROMISE #2 As a believer in Christ, though you may face opposition for Christ's sake (3:9), it is guaranteed that you will be ______ of the time of testing, known as the ______. (v. 10b)

* Do you have to persevere as a believer in order to be Raptured?

- * What do you receive as a Christian for persevering in the faith? (1 Cor. 9:24-27; 2 Tim. 4:6-8; Heb. 10:32-36; James 1:12)
- c. PROMISE #3 Because you are saved, you have the potential to be ______ by the Lord at His coming, _____ you _____. (v. 11)

* How does v. 13 apply to each and every one of us?