

The Church in Philadelphia

Revelation 3:7-13

The Lord's **ACCESS**:

📖 Revelation 3:7 (NIV84) "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open."

📖 Isaiah 22:20–22 (NIV84) "In that day I will summon my servant, Eliakim son of Hilkiah. ²¹ I will clothe him with your robe and fasten your sash around him and hand your authority over to him. He will be a father to those who live in Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. ²² I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open."

📖 Isaiah 9:6–7 (NIV84) "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this."

The Lord's **ACTIONS**:

1. Jesus **closes** doors. (Rev 3:7)

📖 Revelation 3:7 (NIV84) "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens no one can shut, and what He shuts no one can open."

📖 Acts 16:6 (NIV) tells us, "Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia."

2. Jesus **opens** doors. (Rev 3:8-9)

📖 Revelation 3:8–9 (NIV84) "I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹ I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you."

📖 John 20:19 (NIV84) On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

📖 John 20:26–27 (NIV84) "A week later His disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

📖 1 Corinthians 16:8–9 (NIV) "... I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, ⁹ because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me."

📖 2 Corinthians 2:12 (Msg) "When I arrived in Troas to proclaim the Message of the Messiah, I found the place wide open: God had opened the door; all I had to do was walk through it."

📖 Colossians 4:3 (NIV84) "...pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains."

3. Jesus offers **earthly** security. (Rev 3:10)

📖 Revelation 3:10 (NIV84) "Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth."

4. Jesus offers **eternal** security. (Rev 3:11-13)

📖 Revelation 3:11–13 (NIV84) "I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. ¹² Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. ¹³ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." Philly pillar pics

Digging Deeper: Recall a time in your life when a door of opportunity was closed to you. Did you view this as God's way of opening new opportunities for you, or were you just frustrated and disappointed? What was the ultimate outcome? Did other opportunities open up to you? Looking back, can you see God's guidance in your life? Has God most often used a closed door or an open door to steer your life? What advice can you give someone in the hallway of life staring at a bunch of doors?