

## Finally Home

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When engulfed by the terror of tempestuous sea  
Unknown waves before you roll  
At the end of doubt and peril is eternity  
Though fear and conflict seize your soul

*But just think of stepping on shore  
and finding it heaven*

*Of touching a hand and finding it God's*

*Of breathing new air and finding it celestial*

*Of waking up in glory and finding it home*

When surrounded by the blackness  
of the darkest night  
O how lonely death can be  
At the end of this long tunnel is a shining light  
For death is swallowed up in victory

## ***Our Church Is Small, But God Is Big: Truths that Help a Small Assembly Stand Strong***

*(Revelation 3:7-13)*

<sup>7</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":

<sup>8</sup> "I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

οἶδά σου τὰ ἔργα, ἰδοὺ δέδωκα ἐνώπιόν σου θύραν ἠνεωγμένην, ἣν οὐδεὶς δύναται κλεῖσαι αὐτήν, ὅτι μικρὰν ἔχεις δύναμιν καὶ ἐτήρησάς μου τὸν λόγον καὶ οὐκ ἠρνήσω τὸ ὄνομά μου.

<sup>9</sup> "Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie -- indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

<sup>10</sup> "Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

<sup>11</sup> "Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.

<sup>12</sup> "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And *I will write on him* My new name.

<sup>13</sup> "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." '

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**15 Brief Observations**  
**From the Exhortation Given by Jesus**  
**to the Church at Philadelphia**

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**1. God Pays Attention to Local Churches**

<sup>7</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write,

**2. God is the Measure of Holiness and Truth**

'These things says He who is holy, He who is true,

**3. God is the Sovereign Authority Which No One Can Defy**

"He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":

**4. God Knows Our Efforts**

<sup>8</sup> "I know your works.

**5. God Controls Our Opportunities**

See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it;

**6. God Assesses Our Ability**

for you have a little strength,

**7. God Judges Our Faithfulness to His Word**

have kept My word, (note that the measure is *obedience*, **not success**; cp Rev 2:13-14,18-26)

**8. God Sees Our Faithfulness to Him**

and have not denied My name.

**9. God Marks Our Enemies**

<sup>9</sup> "Indeed I will make [those] of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie

**10. God Will Vindicate Those Faithful to Him**

-- indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

**11. God Will Help Those That Persevere**

<sup>10</sup> "Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth.

**12. God Points Us to His Return**

<sup>11</sup> "Behold, I am coming quickly!

**13. God Encourages Us to Hold Fast**

Hold fast what you have,

**14. God Reminds Us of His Rewards for Faithfulness**

that no one may take your crown.

**15. God Promises Special Honor for Overcoming**

<sup>12</sup> "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And [I will write on him] My new name. <sup>13</sup> "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." '