

Sermon Notes
PHILADELPHIA: THE KEY
November 15, 2020



Revelation 3:7–8 (NLT)

⁷“Write this letter to the angel of the church in Philadelphia. (angel-Messenger: is the one who speaks prophetically into the life of the church)

This is the message from the one who is holy and true,
the one who has the **Key of David**.

What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open:

Key of David: 2 Sam. 5:6; 1 Chronicles 11:4-9

Revelation 3:8

⁸“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have **little strength**, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me. What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open:

Revelation 3:9 (NLT)

⁹Look, I will force those who belong to **Satan’s synagogue**—those liars who say they are Jews but are not—to come and bow down at your feet. They will acknowledge that you are the ones I love.

Revelation 3:10 (NLT)

¹⁰“Because you have obeyed my command to persevere, I will protect you (keep you) from the **great time of testing** that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world.

QUESTION? Why does God allow testing?

Here is what I have **learned about times of testing**

1. Your testing is bigger than you, it is not just about you; it’s **about Him** and His kingdom purpose.
2. He never allows testing beyond what you can bear, and He never allows you to be tested without **others in mind**.
 - **KEY THOUGHT:** During times of testing, the struggles we have intensified when we focus inward instead of outward and upward.
3. I’ve learned that **testing does not define you**. It prepares you and promotes you so that your life matters and you bear fruit that lasts.
 - 1 Corinthians 6:9–11 (NIV84) ⁹ Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders ¹⁰ nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. ¹¹ **And that is what some of you were.** But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

KEY THOUGHT: There is a revival coming out of this time of testing—the **greater the testing**, the greater the revival. Why? Because your testing brings salvation to other. You may not see it happening right now, but if you obey Him and do not deny Him you will see the salvation of the Lord. Lies and liars will bow down and recognize that the Lord loves you.

Revelation 3:11–13 (NIV)

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take **your crown**. ¹²The one who is victorious I will **make a pillar** in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it. I will write on them 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 them my new name. ¹³Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.