

LISTENING GUIDE

 **REVELATION** *the future unveiled*  
A Study on the Book of Revelation

**"A Committed Church"**

The Church at Philadelphia Revelation 3 : 7 - 13

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • MARCH 25, 2012

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets and modify words underlined with dots. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1193.

 **REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE:**

- The Church at Sardis was "The Cold Church."
- They had reputation without reality.
- The thought they were alive but they were dead.
- God told them to "wake up" and live.
- Only Christ—the Life-giver—can provide eternal life/security.
- Jesus Christ is coming again to rescue those who believe in Him.



**1. CHURCH—The Church at Philadelphia.**

Revelation 3:7a, NIV84 -<sup>7</sup> "To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write..." [Philadelphia, GK: φιλαδέλφεια from φίλος meaning "loving" and ἀδελφός meaning "brother"; lit., "brotherly love".]

**2. CONFIRMATION—Christ—holy and true—holds the keys of David.**

Revelation 3:7, NIV84 -<sup>7</sup> "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." [In chapter 1, Jesus holds the keys of hell and death (Rev. 1:18). Now, He holds an additional key: the key of David—spoken of in Isaiah 22, wherein we read of a man named Shebna, who was the treasurer in the kingdom of Judah during the reign of Hezekiah. After Shebna used temple money to purchase a sepulcher and chariots for himself, Isaiah came on the scene and said, "What are you doing? You had opportunity, but you abused it." So the key to the treasury was taken from off Shebna's shoulder, where the key was traditionally worn, and given to a godly man who wore it wisely. "The Key of David" represents all of God's riches.]

**3. COMMENDATION—They kept His Word and did not deny His name.**

Revelation 3:8, NIV84 -<sup>8</sup> "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."

**4. COMPLAINT—There is none!**

**5. COMMAND—Keep the faith!**

Revelation 3:11, NIV84 -<sup>11</sup> "I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown."

Revelation 3:11, NCV -<sup>11</sup> "I am coming soon. Continue strong in your faith so no one will take away your crown."

**6. COMFORT—God will honor their faith.**

Revelation 3:12, NCV -<sup>12</sup> "I will make those who win the victory pillars in the temple of my God, and they will never have to leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, that comes down out of heaven from my God. I will also write on them my new name."



**Three Truths about any Faithful Church**

**A. They will be \_\_\_\_\_ commended.**

Revelation 3:8, RSV - [God will say] "I know the toil of your labor."

**B. They will be \_\_\_\_\_ challenged.**

Revelation 3:11, NIV84 -<sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, (i.e., Keep the faith!)

**C. They will be \_\_\_\_\_ compensated.**

**God will take care of their enemies** - "I will make [your enemies] fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you." (v. 9)

**God will deliver them from "trial"** - "I will keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world." (v. 10)

**God will honor them for their faith** - "...He will be secure" (v. 12)



## **Answers to "The Committed Church" Sermon**

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • MARCH 25, 2012

- A. Highly
- B. Deeply
- C. Greatly