# "PROPHETIC PROMISES TO A FAITHFUL CHURCH"

## REVELATION 3:7-12

1. **ANY DISCUSSION ON THE ANCIENT CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA MUST BEGIN WITH A DETERMINATION OF THE CHARACTER AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS LOCAL ASSEMBLY (3:7-12)**
	1. Philadelphia & Smyrna Are The Only Two Churches That Receive No Rebuke Or Condemning Statement From The Lord
	2. Philadelphia Had Remained Steadfast In Their Convictions Despite The Fact That They Were Small Numerically And Had Faced Opposition From Apostate Judaism
	3. Philadelphia Received A Series Of Eschatological Promises
2. **EVERY ONE OF THE SELF DESCRIPTIONS OF CHRIST IS INTENDED TO PREPARE FOR THE PRECISE COMMUNICATION APPROPRIAIE FOR THIS CHURCH (3:7)**
	1. He Has The Authority To Make The Kind Of Promises That He Does

		1. He Alone Can Perform The Activity Of *Opening & Shutting*
		2. He Alone Maintains Possession Of The Key Of David
	2. He Is The Possessor Of Two Specific Attributes That Highlight His Authority

		1. He Is Holy

			1. Holiness Was The Single Attribute That Was Intoned And Celebrated In Heaven In The O.T. (Isaiah 6)
			2. Holiness Will Be The Single Attribute Intoned And Celebrated In Heaven After The Rapture (cf. Rev. 4:8)
		2. He Is True: All Other False Messiahs Have Zero Authority To Make Any Such Claims