

20220306 Our little becomes big in the Lord

The time is near - Part 8 (Revelation 3:7-13)

⁷ 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:

⁸ "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.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

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

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. 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.

¹³ "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

v7

⁷ 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:**

What is holy? What does it mean?

The Bible teaches that God is a holy God. The idea behind the concept of holiness is "separation." In the Hebrews the word is "qadosh", and in the Greek, "hagios".

It comes from a word meaning "to separate or cut off." God is separate, or cut off, from everything that is sinful and evil. He

cannot tolerate sin. To say that God is holy means there is no trace of evil in His character.

Holy is also God's name.

Isaiah 57:15

"For this is what the high and lofty One says - he who lives forever, whose name is holy." (Isaiah 57:15)

Revelation 15:4

"Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? **For you alone are holy.** All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed." (Revelation 15:4)

Mark 1:24

"What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are -the Holy One of God." (Mark 1:24)

God is holy and is separate from humanity.

Right now, God is separate from humanity spatially. He is in heaven while humans live upon the earth.

He is also separate in His nature and character. He is perfect, humans are imperfect. Holiness is an attribute of God that distinguishes Himself and His creation.

Isaiah 55:8-9

⁸ "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD.

⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

John 17:8, 14, 17, 19, 20, 24

⁸ For I have given to them **the words which You have given Me;** and **they have received them,** and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me.

¹⁴ **I have given them Your word**; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

¹⁷ **Sanctify them by Your truth**. Your word is truth.

¹⁹ And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that **they also may be sanctified by the truth**.

²⁰ "I do not pray for these alone, but also for **those who will believe in Me through their word**;

²⁴ "Father, I desire that **they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am**, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.

v8

⁸ "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.

Ephesians 2:8-10

⁸ God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

⁹ Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.

¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

PROMISE NUMBER ONE: VICTORY IN THIS WORLD.

v9

⁹ 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.

PROMISE NUMBER TWO: SALVATION FROM THE COMING TRIBULATION

v10

¹⁰ 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.

James 1:2-5

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials,

³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

⁴ But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

PROMISE NUMBER THREE: DWELLING IN GOD'S HOLINESS

v12

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. 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.