Revelation 3:11-13

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

Day 1

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before, or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

11a 'I am coming

11b quickly;

11c hold fast what you have,

11d so that no one will take your crown.

12a 'He who overcomes,

12b I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God,

12c and he will not go out from it anymore;

12d and I will write on him the name of My God,

12e and the name of the city of My God,

12f the new Jerusalem,

12g which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.

13a 'He who has an ear,

13b let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

1. Read Revelation 3:7-13. What has been the "theme" of the letter to the church in Philadelphia?

2. What does Jesus promise in 11a-b?

3. How does Jesus' promise in 11a-b relate to v. 10?

- 4. Where else in Scripture are there promises of the imminence of Jesus' return?
- 5. How would this promise have encouraged this church? What does the imminence of Jesus' return have to do with believers' security?

6. How does this promise encourage you? Do you believe it?

Day 2

Read Revelation 3:7-13 again.

- 7. What is the command in 11c?
- 8. Looking at the previous verses, what do you think Jesus means by "what you have" in 11c?
- 9. Why does Jesus tell them to "hold fast what you have"?

- 10. What crown is Jesus referring to in 11d?
- 11. List the promises that Jesus makes in v. 12.

- 12. Who are these promises for?
- 13. Do your best to study the word/idea of "temple" in the NT, especially Revelation. What did you find that clarifies Jesus' promise in 12b-c?

14. Why would Jesus write the name of God and the name of the city of God on his people? Where else in Revelation are names written on people?

15. What does this promise (12d-e) have to do with security?

Day 3

Read Revelation 3:7-13 again.

- 16. Study occurrences of the word "Jerusalem" in the NT. What range of meaning could you establish for this word?
- 17. Where else does John use the word "Jerusalem" in Revelation? How does this color your understanding of this promise?
- 18. What is the instruction in v. 13? Why does Jesus continue to conclude with this instruction?

19. How would you summarize John's/Jesus' intent in the letter to the church in Philadelphia?

20. In what ways has the letter to the church in Philadelphia impacted you?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would eagerly, actively anticipate the Lord's return, that we would hold fast to what the Lord has given us, and that we would look forward to the new heavens and the new earth, striving by God's grace to overcome sin and suffering.