Revelation 3:7-13

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

Read Revelation 3:7-13.

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.

7 “And to the angel

 of the church

 in Philadelphia

 write:

 He

 who is holy,

 who is true,

 who has the key

 of David,

 who opens

 and

 no one will shut,

 and

 who shuts

 and

 no one opens,

 says this:

 8 ‘I know your deeds.

 Behold,

 I have put before you

 an open door

 which no one can shut,

 because

 you have a little power,

 and

 have kept My word,

 and

 have not denied My name.

 9 Behold,

 I will cause those

 of the synagogue of Satan,

 who say that they are Jews

 and

 are not,

 but lie —

 I will make them

 come

 and

 bow down

 at your feet,

 and

 make them know

 that I have loved you.

 10 Because

 you have kept the word

 of My perseverance,

 I also will keep you from the hour

 of testing,

 that hour

 which is about to come

 upon the whole world,

 to test those

 who dwell

 on the earth.

 11 I am coming quickly;

 hold fast what you have,

 so that no one will take your crown.

 12 He who overcomes,

 I will make him a pillar

 in the temple

 of My God,

 and

 he will not go out from it anymore;

 and

 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

 My new name.

 13 He who has an ear,

 let him hear what the Spirit says

 to the churches.’”

1. How is the one giving the message described?
2. Who is this passage written to? How are the recipients described?
3. What has this church done? What have they abstained from?
4. What command(s) have been given?
5. Who is accused of lying? What will that result in?
6. Who are the “synagogue of Satan”? What is stated about them?
* Day 2

Read Revelation 3:7-13 again.

1. What is “the key of David”? Also see Rev. 1:18, Job 12:14, Is. 22:22, and Matt. 16:19.
2. How is the relationship between the Lord and the recipients described?
3. What will these recipients be kept from in vs. 10? Why will they be kept from this? What does this tell us about their past?
4. What does it mean to “overcome”? Also see 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 21; 21:7, and 1 John 5:4-5.
5. Describe what is promised in this passage to the one who overcomes. What does this mean?
6. From throughout this passage, list everything the Lord has the ability to do.
7. What does it mean for someone to have the names of vs. 12 written on them? Also see Rev. 14:1 and 22:4. Does this correlate with the new name believers will receive as described in 2:17?
* Day 3

Read Revelation 3:7-13 again.

1. How would you describe this church, based on this passage?
2. What characteristics of this church would you want SWBC to exhibit? Are these present now? How are they established or cultivated in any church?
3. Describe what it means to be a “pillar” in the temple of God as in this passage. How would this be contrasted with man-made structures, especially considering the history of the previous temples of God in Jerusalem?
4. Is this message limited to the original audience, the church in first century Philadelphia, or not? How do we know who else it may apply to or who should be “listening”?
5. How can this passage be used in your witness of the gospel to an unbeliever?
6. Summarize this passage in 21 words or less.

In preparation for Sunday, ask the Lord to prepare the hearts of our congregation to receive the word. Pray for our members to hold fast to the faith and persevere.