

The Seven Churches – 6 The Church at Philadelphia

Begin by reading through Revelation 3:7–13. Make a note of anything especially striking and of anything that you do not understand.

Exploring the church at Philadelphia – Questions on the passage

Question 1 – How does Jesus describe himself in vs 7? What does this teach us about Jesus?

Question 2 – What three things does Jesus say he knows about this church? (vs 8) What is the significance of his placing an open door before the church?

Question 3 – What will Jesus do to those in the synagogue who have opposed them? (vs 9)

Question 4 – What promise does Jesus make to this church? (vs 10)

Question 5 – In the light of his ‘coming soon’ what does Jesus urge these Christians to do? (vs 11, 12b)

Question 6 – What does Jesus promise to those who overcome? (vs 12)

Try to sum up the situation in Philadelphia in a single sentence.

‘He who has an ear, let him hear’ – Questions for Application

In what areas might we as Christians feel excluded today?

Do you think that Christians today give in too readily to the fear of exclusion? How can they be encouraged to stand firm?

How can the promise of vs 10 encourage us in the face of the pressure to compromise?