

24 June 2018: Preached by Rev Clement Chew

Topic: An Open Door

Scripture text: Revelation 3:7-13

1. The Lord Jesus Christ assessed the seven churches of Asia Minor, including the church in Philadelphia. It was a difficult period for Christians but the church in Philadelphia, despite being small, received commendations and not condemnations.

2. We can learn from the Lord Jesus Christ's evaluation of this church that every congregation is sustained by the power of God. God has the power and authority and no man can frustrate God's will. The church had an open door to witness for God and no opposition can stop their testimony. We can learn from them not to compromise. God's assessment is not by size of congregation but faithfulness. The church in Philadelphia followed His Word. Likewise, our conduct must match up to our calling, keep His Word and not deny His name.

3. The Jews rejected Christ instead of receiving Him. They think that they were doing God's work but they were not. Nonetheless, some of them would be converted because of the testimony of the church in Philadelphia. Similarly, our testimony can lead others to Christ. Being small does not mean useless. Small can be powerful with God's help.

4. God will preserve His own through trials and they will be spared from the Great Tribulation. Christ will come again. Those who overcome will be pillars in the Temple of God, strong and unmoveable. This means that we will not be removed until God's timing. We belong to God and we must be faithful to the end.