

“Write this letter to the angel of the church in Philadelphia. This is the message from the one who is holy and true, the one who has the key of David. What he opens, no one can close; and what he closes, no one can open: “I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.” Revelation 3:7-8 NLT

[lectio] // REVELATIONS 3:7-13

listen to the text by reading out loud slowly and repeat up to 3x if desired

[meditatio]

What would it be like to live in a time of unprecedented favor? What happens when God permits the church to completely have its way, with no barriers, no battles and no bullies? What do we even want? Would we know what to do? John reveals that Jesus encourages Philadelphia with an unusual gift because of their perseverance - a gift of INFLUENCE. He calls it a key, a unique key that opens and closes. Except this key controls doors of purposeful influence that cannot be controlled by any resistance. What would we do in city, a state or a country where there is no resistance to godly pursuits? What if the church behaved as if had the favor of God in their community. Would we consume that favor upon ourselves, using it for bigger churches, crusades or fame? Would we use our key to open doors of prosperity or even generosity? What would we use the key to accomplish?

[oratio]

Dad,
It is hard, even in faith, to see a future of favor, using such a powerful key to lock and unlock a wave of grace, a season of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness and goodness that had no resistance. What would we do with such a wonderful gift? Would the called ones, the Christ followers, the Holy Spirit filled believers be prepared for such a time? Would I recognize it? Would I sense the ease of people coming to Christ, being set free, being healed, and seeing your transformation in massive quantities? There have been those outpourings. I was caught up in one just like that. Thousands upon thousands of fatherless all hearing you call us to yourself. It is glorious!

[contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root