Seven Churches Of Asia Series:

Philadelphia: The Faithful Church
Rev. 3:7-13

Introduction:

A. Philadelphia:
   1. City named after it founder: King Attalus II Philadelphus of Pergamos (159-138 B.C.)
   3. A center of Greek Culture.
B. Let us notice the various parts of this letter:

Discussion:

I. The Description of Christ In This Letter (v. 7)
   A. "Holy" - In character and life. (1 Pet. 2:22,23; Heb. 4:15; Rev. 4:8)
   B. "True" - Was the truth. (John 14:6)
      1. Unlike man at funeral: "Truth never came out."
      2. Nothing hypocritical or sham about Him.
   C. "Has the key of David."
      1. Keys symbolize authority.

II. The Condition Of The Church At Philadelphia.
   A. Her good points:
      1. "An open door." (v. 8) - Great opportunity to evangelize.
      2. "A little strength" - God can do lot with little.
         a. Gideon's reduced Army. (Judges 6)
         c. Shamgar's Oxgoad. (Judges 3:31)
         d. David's sling and stone. (1 Sam 17:50)
      4. "Have not denied my name." - even in midst of pagan and hostile society.
   B. No bad points - rather vindicated. (v. 9)

III. The Advice To The Church At Philadelphia.
   A. To be kept from trial. (v. 10; cf. 1 Cor. 10:13)
   B. Hold fast to keep crown. (v. 11; cf. 1 Cor. 15:2)
   C. A pillar in the temple of God. (v. 12) - Permanent and secure.
      1. Will go out no more.
      2. Three names written on him.

Conclusion:

A. Even weak and struggling churches important to God.
B. Will you be pillar in God's temple?