

Philadelphia
The Church That Wouldn't Quit
Revelation 3:7-13
May 26, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. We've been called to finish this race for God.
- B. God is looking for people who will go the distance with Him.
- C. God is looking for people who won't quit and the people in the church at Philadelphia were such a people.
- D. Jesus identified Himself to them as: (1) Holy (2) True (3) Holding the key of David.

**CHRISTIANS AND CHURCHES WHO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD TODAY ARE THOSE WHO
STAND WITH JESUS AND REFUSE TO QUIT.**

II. WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO STAND AND NOT QUIT?

- A. People who don't quit rely on God's strength.
(Revelation 3:8a)
 - 1. "I know that you have little strength . . ."
 - 2. The Christian life is not natural, it is supernatural. It cannot be successfully lived out in our own strength.
 - 3. We need God's strength to see us through.
(Ephesians 1:15-23; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Philippians 4:13)
 - 4. The church at Philadelphia had little strength, so for centuries God could display His strength in them.
- B. People who don't quit hold on to God's Word.
(Revelation 3:8b)
 - 1. Many of our trials and frustrations come from not following God's instructions.

- 2. God's Word is our instruction manual on how to live the faithful Christian life.
 - a. His Word is a lamp that lights our way. *(Psalm 119:105-112)*
 - b. His Word is the source of a deeper faith. *(Romans 10:17)*
 - c. It is God's training manual. *(2 Timothy 3:13-17)*
 - d. It is a sword that exposes lies, hypocrisy and false motives. *(Hebrews 4:12-13)*
 - e. It is the key to purity and holiness. *(Psalm 119:9-11)*
 - f. It is the Word that reveals Jesus. *(John 5:39-40)*

- 3. The church at Philadelphia remained strong because they kept hold of God's Word.
 - a. Kept — "preserved, hold on to."

C. People who don't quit stay true to God's Name.
(Revelations 3:8c)

- 1. The Name of God is the revelation of all that God is.
- 2. When you become a Christian you now bear His name.
- 3. The Christians at Philadelphia took that privilege seriously and did not *deny* His name.
 - a. Deny — "contradict"
 - b. The Philadelphians lived consistently with God's character so God's name would not be diminished."

III. CONCLUSION

- A. Victory belongs to those who never quit.
- B. To those who overcome Jesus promises:
 - 1. "I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God. Never again will he leave it."
 - 2. I will write on him:
 - a. the name of My God
 - b. the name of the City of My God
 - c. My new name
- C. He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.