



INTENT MESSAGING SERIES

Part Six: "Jesus is Intent on an Encouraged Church"

Pastor David Cannistraci ♦ December 14, 2008

Text: Revelation 3:7-13

THE CHURCH WITH A _____

Philadelphia had been frightened by natural _____.

Philadelphia was unsettled in its _____.

The believers at Philadelphia were in need of _____.

"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you. Isaiah 54:10 (NIV)

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR _____ SAINTS

1. Jesus opens and closes the _____ of our lives (vv. 7-8)

"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7 (NLT)

2. Jesus converts our weaknesses into _____ (vv. 8, 12)

"Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong." 2 Corinthians 12:10 (NKJV)

3. Jesus commands our greatest challenges to _____ us. (v. 9)

"Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word..." Psalm 148:8 (KJV)

Encouraged (Cont'd)

4. Jesus protects us during times of intense _____ (vv. 10-11)

"Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him." James 1:12 (NIV)

5. Jesus brings us into unshakable _____ (v. 12)

"Once you had no identity as a people; now you are God's people. Once you received no mercy; now you have received God's mercy." 1 Peter 2:10 (NLT)

Who makes these promises?

- The _____ One
- The _____ One
- The one who holds the _____

FATHER GOD, I thank you for the promises of Christ that keep me stable when everything is shaky. Today I surrender my life to you completely. I give you my fears, my identity and my future. Make me a pillar, Lord, and open the doors you have for me. In Christ's Name, AMEN

RESOURCES FOR THIS WEEK'S SMALL GROUPS

Icebreaker: Take turns sharing "earthquake survival" testimonies.

Scripture Focus: Let each member share a verse from this teaching-- one that spoke to them personally. How does it speak to them?

Discussion Focus: How can we live a more encouraged and stable life this week?

Prayer Focus: Pray for each person to be comforted in trials.

REMEMBER to give an offering for the needy in your group this week, for God has promised us a rich reward (Det. 15:11, Psalm 41:1)