

Book of Revelation, part 36

- I. The Church at Philadelphia—‘*brotherly fondness*’ (Rev. 3:7-13).
 1. The treasures to the New Testament are currently open.
 2. Christ will make all who rejected Him and the Church acknowledge that we were correct at the Great White Throne Judgment (*cf.* 1 Cor. 6:2-3).
 3. We are to emulate Jesus’ earthly patience, with suffering on earth, knowing that like Him we will be exalted.
- II. ***I am coming quickly, hold that which you have in order that no one may take your crown.*** (Rev. 3:11).
 1. The impending Rapture has comfort for the Christian.
 - 1) Because we will be rescued from the danger of the Tribulation (1 Thes. 5:9).
 - 2) Because we have a hope of a future that outshines the present (Rom. 8:18, 23-25).
 2. Crowns that Christians can be earned by grace.
 - 1) The Crown of a pastor—not lording it over the flock (1 Pet. 5:4).
 - 2) The Crown of self-control over one’s body (1 Cor. 9:24-26).
 - 3) The Crown of leading someone to salvation (Phil. 4:1; 1 Thes. 2:19).
 - 4) The Crown of Life—overcoming a specific paramount temptation (Jam. 1:12; Rev. 2:20).
 - 5) The Crown of Righteousness—loving His appearing (2 Tim. 4:8).
 3. Deductive reasoning: Temptation or appearing.
 - 1) The case for the Crown of Life (Jam. 1:12; Rev. 2:10).
 - 2) The case for the Crown of Righteousness (2 Tim. 2:8 *cf.* 2 Pet. 2:8-9).
- III. The promises to the overcomer, ***I will design and make him a pillar in the Holy of Holies of My God and he shall not leave (that position) any more*** (Rev. 3:12; 1 Jn. 5:5).
 1. Use of the concept of ‘pillar’ as a predominate role (Gal. 2:9; 1 Tim. 3:15).
 2. Central role and close proximity (Rev. 11:19; 21:22-24).