

# **What Jesus wants for his church – boldness**

**Revelation 3:1-6**

Slides from John Percival's sermon at the morning service  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024

“I think this is Jesus cleaning up his church and bringing something into the light that needed to be brought into the light.”

**Matt Redman**



# Seven Churches of Revelation

— Chapters 2-3 —

- 1 Ephesus
- 2 Smyrna
- 3 Pergamos
- 4 Thyatira
- 5 Sardis
- 6 Philadelphia
- 7 Laodicea

Island of Patmos: where John received the vision



## Revelation 3v8

I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name.

# 1. A key – authority (v7)



## Revelation 3v7

To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:  
These are the words of him who is holy and true,  
who holds the key of David. What he opens no one  
can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.

## Isaiah 22v22

I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open.

## 2. A door - opportunity (v8-9)





## Revelation 3v8

See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut.

## 1 Corinthians 16v8-9

<sup>8</sup> But I will stay on at Ephesus until Pentecost, <sup>9</sup>  
because a great door for effective work has opened  
to me, and there are many who oppose me.

## Colossians 4v3-4

<sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. <sup>4</sup> Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

## Isaiah 60v14

The children of your oppressors will come bowing  
before you;  
all who despise you will bow down at your feet  
and will call you the City of the LORD,  
Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

## 2 Corinthians 12v9

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”

“If we have walked in through the door of salvation, we must also walk out through the door of service.”

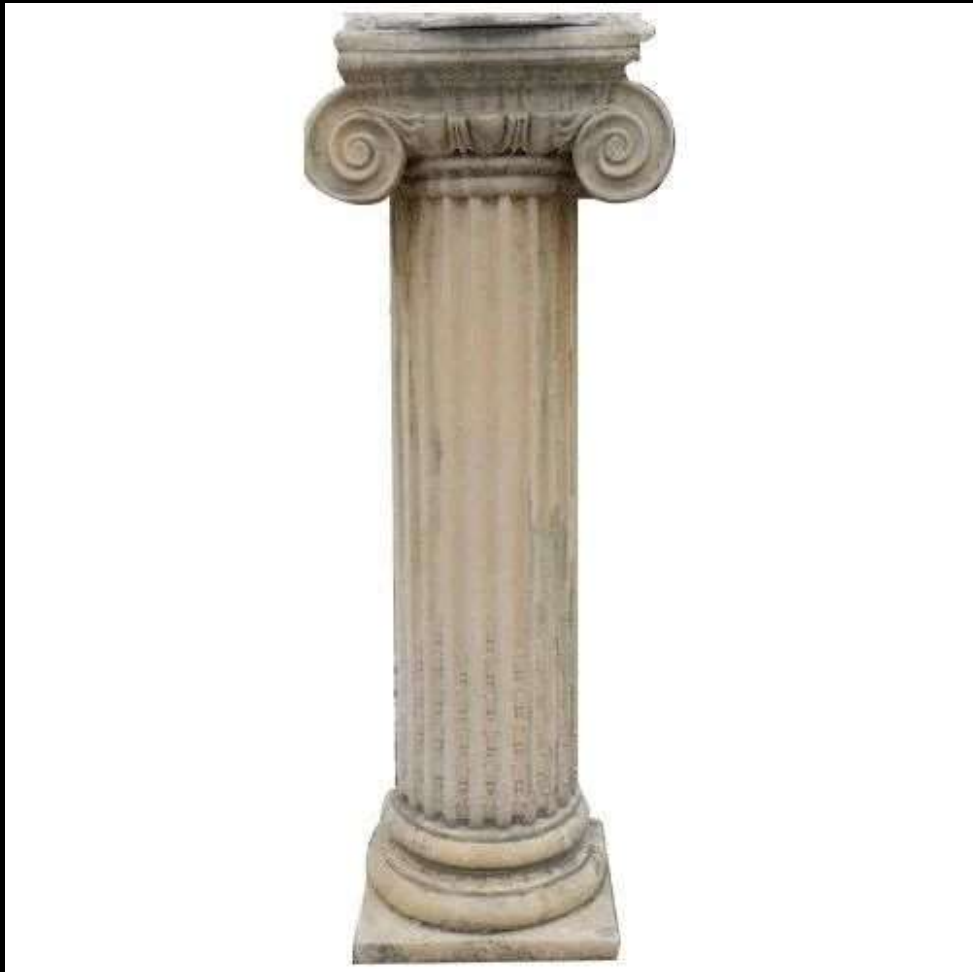


John Stott

“True, some doors are closed; but very many are open. There are more vacancies that can be filled, and more opportunities that can be taken. There is a shortage of people of the right kind. There is a lack of men and women who are on the one hand trained and competent, and on the other wholly committed to Christ. The church urgently needs Christians with apostolic zeal who will count all things loss for Christ and risk life, comfort, career and reputation for him. The open doors are many; but there are few to go through them.”

**John Stott**

### 3. A pillar - security (v10-12a)





## Revelation 3v10-12a

<sup>10</sup> Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. <sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will they leave it.

## 4. A new name - belonging (v10-12b)



## Revelation 3v12

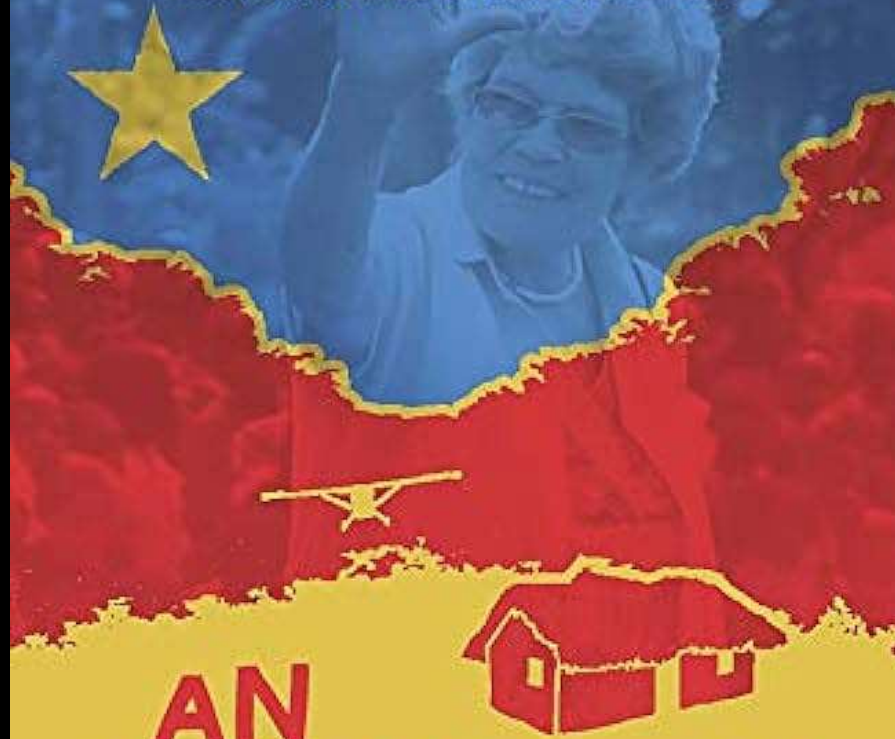
I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name.



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**'THIS IS A STORY YOU NEED TO READ.  
I HAVE BEEN STIRRED AND BLESSED BY IT.'**

FROM THE FOREWORD BY PATRICK JOHNSTONE



# **AN OPEN DOOR**

**A TRUE STORY OF COURAGE IN CONGO**

**MAUD KELLS**

**WITH JEAN GIBSON**

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“When I worried about my ability to do what God was asking of me, I turned to the verses that he had given me from 1 Corinthians 1v27-29: ‘But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong; God chose the lowly things of the world and the despised things – and the things that are not – to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.’ I held on to those words. I might feel inadequate but God had chosen me. He would equip me for the task ahead.”

**Maud Kells**

## 2 Corinthians 12v10

That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.