



## Separation Anxiety

**Revelation 3:7-13 ESV** And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: ‘The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. <sup>8</sup> “I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. <sup>9</sup> Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup> Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. <sup>11</sup> I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. <sup>13</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

**Augustine (AD 354-430):** “You made us for Yourself. And our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You.”

### 1. In the separation, treasure the GOSPEL .

**Revelation 14:12** “Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.”

**Hebrews 12:2** Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross

### 2. In the separation, treasure the Gospel—because God promises, “ENABLE the Good News”

**Richard Sibbes (1577–1635):** “As we say of the mother and the child, both hold, but the safety of the child is that the mother holds him. . . . Our safety is more on his side than on ours. If ever we have felt the love of Christ, we may comfort ourselves with the constancy and perpetuity thereof. Though, perhaps, we find not our affections warmed to him at all times, nor alike, yet the

strength of a Christian's comfort lies in this, that first, 'Christ is mine,' and then, in the second place, that 'I am his'.”

### 3. In the separation, treasure the Gospel—because God promises, “I will SPREAD the Good News”

**Isaiah 60:14** “The sons of those who afflicted you shall come bending low to you, and all who despised you shall bow down at your feet; they shall call you the City of the LORD, the Zion of the Holy One of Israel.”

**Genesis 12:1-3** Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

**Christopher J. H. Wright (b. 1947):** “Mission is not ours; mission is God's. . . . It is not so much the case that God has a mission for his church in the world but that God has a church for His mission in the world. Mission was not made for the church, the church was made for mission—God's mission.”

### 4. In the separation, treasure the Gospel—because God promises, “AM the Good News!”

*His Robes for Mine* (by Chris Anderson, ©churchworksmmedia.com, 2008)

His robes for mine: such anguish none can know.  
Christ, God's beloved, condemned as though His foe.  
He, as though I, accursed and left alone;  
I, as though He, embraced and welcomed home!

**Psalms 86:11** “Unite my heart to fear your name.”

**Psalms 90:14** “Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.”

BIBLE READING PLAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun. John 14	<input type="checkbox"/> Mon. John 15	<input type="checkbox"/> Tue. John 16
<input type="checkbox"/> Wed. John 17	<input type="checkbox"/> Thu. John 18	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fri. John 19	<input type="checkbox"/> Sat. John 20	<input type="checkbox"/> Sun. John 21

Champ Thornton, SOMA Director  
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