

# Part 2



revelation

[a•po•ca•lypse]



**SEVEN  
LETTERS  
REVELATION 2-3**



**Rev 1.13-16 ~ <sup>13</sup> and in the middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. <sup>14</sup> His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. <sup>15</sup> His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. <sup>16</sup> In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.**

# Revelation 1:19 John Given An Outline Of The Book By Jesus

**1.19 ~ Write the things which you have seen ...**

- **Chapter 1**

**... and the things which are ...**

- **Chapters 2-3**

**... and the things which will take place after this.**

- **Chapters 4-22**

**Angel** ~ *aggelos* – literally, messenger

John the Baptist Matt. 11.10 ~ **For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.'**



**Messenger**

Angel

Jesus

The 2 spies – James 2:25 ~ **Like Rahab the harlot who justified her works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?**



John



Pastor Keith



**messengers**



# THE LETTERS TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

**Local Prophetic  
Contemporary**

The seven churches symbolize the seven stages of Church history:

	Church	Meaning of its name	Symbolized period	Dates
1	Ephesus	Desirable	Apostolic Church	33 - 100
2	Smyrna	Fragrant when crushed	Persecuted Church	100 - 313
3	Pergamos	Raised up city	Compromising Church	313 - 538
4	Thyatira	Savor of labor	Corrupt Church	538 - 1517
5	Sardis	That which remains	Reformation Church	1517 - 1755
6	Philadelphia	Brotherly love	Awakening Church	1755 - 1844
7	Laodicea	Judging the people	Today's Church	1844 - End

# The Seven Churches of Revelation

THE 7 CHURCHES	<sup>1</sup> Ephesus	<sup>2</sup> Smyrna	<sup>3</sup> Pergamos	<sup>4</sup> Thyatira	<sup>5</sup> Sardis	<sup>6</sup> Philadelphia	<sup>7</sup> Laodicea
SCRIPTURE REFERENCE	REV. 2:1-7	REV. 2:8-11	REV. 2:12-17	REV. 2:18-29	REV. 3:1-6	REV. 3:7-13	REV. 3:14-22
MEANING OF NAME	"To Let Go"	"Anointing Oil"	"To Be Married To Power"	"To Be Ruled By A Woman"	"A Precious Stone"	"Brotherly Love"	"Power of The Laity"
PERIOD IN CHURCH HISTORY	A.D. 33-100	A.D. 100-313	A.D. 313-538	A.D. 538-1517	A.D. 1517-1755	A.D. 1755-1844	A.D. 1744-END END of AGE
CHARACTER OF EACH CHURCH	Effort Relaxed	Martyrdom & Tribulation	Union of Church and State	Counterfeit; Anti-Christian	Reformation	Evangelical; Missionary	Modernism; Spiritual Poverty
CHRIST'S TITLE AS JUDGE	"Walks In Midst of Candlesticks"	"Which Was Dead And Is Alive"	"He Which Hath The Sharp Sword"	"The Son Of God"	"He That Hath The Seven Spirits"	"He That Is Holy And True"	"The Faithful Witness"
GOOD POINTS	Labor & Patience	Endured Tribulation	The Faith Not Denied	Faith & Patience	A Name That It Lived	Kept The Word	<b>NONE</b>
FAULTS	Left First Love	<b>NONE</b>	Balaam's Doctrine, Idolatry	Ruled By "Jezebel"	But Dead Spiritually	<b>NONE</b>	Lukewarm
REWARD TO OVERCOMERS	"Paradise"	The First Resurrection	"A White Stone"	Reign With Christ	"Name Confessed"	"The New Jerusalem"	"With Christ On David's Throne"



# The Seven Churches of Revelation

## Introduction to Revelation 2-3

- Seven churches were chosen because they represent conditions throughout church history
- Seven angels (messengers) are addressed
- Similar structure is adhered to for all seven letters
  - ▣ 1. Christ Identifies himself with a part of the vision
  - ▣ 2. The Church is Commended for Good Points
  - ▣ 3. The Church is Corrected for Faults
  - ▣ 4. Given A Call To Repent
  - ▣ 4. The Promise Given To The Overcomers

Overcomers!



THE CHURCHES OF REVELATION

**EPHESUS**

THE LOVELESS

CHURCH



# The Seven Churches of Revelation

## Ephesus: Background

# EPHESUS

### The City

- **60** miles from the island of Patmos
- Seaport city with ~ 250,000 inhabitants
- Primarily known for the Temple of **Artemis**
- Secondarily known for the theater at Ephesus



# The Seven Churches of Revelation

**Ephesus:**

**The Temple  
of Artemis  
(then)**





# The Seven Churches of Revelation

Ephesus:

The Theatre

# *The Ephesus Church*



## **CHURCHES OF REVELATION**

sermon series

# The Seven Churches of Revelation

## Ephesus: The Text (Revelation 2:1-7)

<sup>1</sup> “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this: <sup>2</sup> I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary.<sup>4</sup> But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.



# The Seven Churches of Revelation

## Ephesus: The Text (Revelation 2:1-7)

<sup>5</sup> Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent. <sup>6</sup> Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.<sup>7</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'

# Jesus Is Identified with the Church

Ephesus: The Text (Revelation 2:1)

<sup>1</sup> “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

**The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden**

**lampstands,** says this: <sup>2</sup> I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and you have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake, and have not grown weary.<sup>4</sup> But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.

# JOHN 10:28



- and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of *My* hand.

# Jesus Is Identified with the Church

Ephesus: The Text (Revelation 2:1)



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# Matthew 18:20



- For where two or three have gathered together in *My* name, I am there in their midst.”




**Christ Identifies Himself:**

**Walking Among The  
7 Golden Lampstands**

**&**

**Holding The  
7 Stars  
In His  
Right Hand**




<sup>2</sup> **I know your deeds** and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

## 2 Corinthians 5:10



- For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.






<sup>2</sup> **I know your deeds** and **your toil and perseverance**, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:2-3

## The Good




<sup>2</sup> I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that **you cannot tolerate evil men**, and you put to the **test those who call themselves apostles**, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.

# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:2-3

## The Good



<sup>2</sup> I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and **you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.**

# Galations 6:9




- Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.

# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:2-3

## The Good



<sup>2</sup> I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them to be false;<sup>3</sup> and **you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary.**

# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:4

**The Bad**



<sup>4</sup> But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.


Return  
*to your first Love*



# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:4-6

## Call To Repent



**<sup>5</sup> Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.**


<sup>6</sup> Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.



# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:4-6

**By The Way**



<sup>5</sup> Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.

<sup>6</sup> **Yet this you do have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.**


# THE NICOLAITANS

- What Revelation says
- Who is Nicolas – Acts 6:5
- Connection to Baalam – Numbers 22 – 24
- Connection to Jezebel – 2 Kings 9 – 10
- Epicureans of Greece – Acts 17:18
- Are they still around today?

# EPHESUS

Revelation 2:4-6

**Overcomer**



<sup>7</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.'**

## REVELATION 22:1-2



Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.