

## 7 Letters to the 7 Churches

<u>Church</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Aprox Time</u>	<u>Era</u>	<u>Name Meaning</u>	<u>Lesson</u>
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**Ephesus**= the Apostolic Church, 70-82ad, era of transition, "Darling",

Lesson = devotion more than doctrine

**From; Rev 2:1** "To the angel of the church in Ephesus (Apostle John's home Church) write: 'The words of him (Jesus) who holds the seven stars (angels (messengers)) in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. (churches)

**Good Report; Rev 2:2** "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false.

Rev 2:3 I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary.

Rev 2:6 Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, (elevation of the clergy) which I also hate.

**Bad Report; Rev 2:4** But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first.

**Remedy; Rev 2:5** Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. (Ephesus is just a pile of ruins today.)

**Individual's admonition; Rev 2:7** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. [Everlasting Life] [Gen 3:22] [Crowns]

**Smyrna** = Persecuted Church, 82-442ad, era of persecution, "Embalming Spice" (death),

Lesson = endure persecution

**From; Rev 2:8** "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life. (Resurrection)

**Good Report;** Rev 2:9 “I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) (Faith and Grace) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, (Replacement Theology)but are a synagogue of Satan.

Gad the Seer 2:15

15Woe to you, O Edom,[those that hate Israel] that sits in the land of Kittim [Italy] in the north of the [Mediterranean] sea.

16For your destroyers will emerge from a terrible nation. They will not even leave you a remnant.

17For you have said: “I sit on high, and only I have a covenant with the God of gods, for the LORD chose me instead of His holy people, for He abhorred them.

18And His former people, despised and rejected, did not truly know the LORD [the Father] because they did not know His image [the Son].

19We are truly wise and intelligent; we know the LORD and His Law, we know His image [the Son] and presence [the Holy Spirit].”

20But thus says the LORD: “Because you rose up in pride to brag about the God of gods, know that you will perish in your conceitedness.

21For why would you put confidence in man, whose life is like a vapor, which begins in the morning, and is gone by noon-day, placing him to sit beside God.

22For it is not you whom I knew formerly, and where is the bill of divorce of My people, that you said would be a prey; show it to Me!”

Rev 2:10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days [Dan 1:12, or 10days of Awe] you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

**Bad Report;** None

**Remedy;** None

**Individual’s admonition; Rev 2:11** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

**Rev 20:14** Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.

Rev 20:15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

**Pergamum** =Married Church, 442-802ad, era of accommodation, "Mixed Marriage",

Lesson = stand fast against the world

**From;** Rev 2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: ‘The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword.

**Isa 49:2** And he hath made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand hath he hid me, and made me a polished shaft; in his quiver hath he hid me.

**Eph 6:17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God,]

**Rev 19:15** From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.

(the "Word of God" is associated with the power of creation, and thereby also destruction)

**Good Report;** Rev 2:13 "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. (The altar of Zeus, currently in the Berlin, Germany museum) Yet you hold fast my name, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, [refused to worship Cesar] where Satan dwells.

**Bad Report;** Rev 2:14 But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality.

**Num 25:1** While Israel lived in Shittim, the people began to whore with the daughters of Moab.

Num 25:2 These invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods.

Num 25:3 So Israel yoked himself to Baal of Peor. And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.

**Num 31:16** Behold, these, on Balaam's advice, caused the people of Israel to act treacherously against the LORD in the incident of Peor, and so the plague came among the congregation of the LORD.

Num 25:9 Nevertheless, those who died by the plague were twenty-four thousand.]

Rev 2:15 So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

**Remedy;** Rev 2:16 Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth.

**Individual's admonition;** Rev 2:17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, (in the ark of the covenant) and I will give him a white stone, (token for admission to the Roman games] with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.'

**Thyatira** = Corrupted Church, 802-1162ad, era of compromise, “Babylon Mysteries”

Lesson = abhor pagan practices

**Good Report;** Rev 2:19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first.

**Bad Report;** Rev 2:20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman **Jezebel**, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, [turning away from worshiping the True God] and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. [putting up with pagan practices in the Church]

Jezebel was a pattern for corruption in the Church –

**1Ki 21:25** There was none who sold himself to do what was evil in the sight of the LORD like Ahab, whom Jezebel his wife incited.

The warning in Rev 2:20, to the Church of Thyatira, of sexual immorality and eating food sacrificed to idols is a dual prohibition; meaning actual immorality, but also the turning away from worshiping the True God; and actually eating food sacrificed to idols, which is also putting up with pagan practices in the Church because “it won’t hurt us as believers”.

This an extension of the warnings from Christ to not be deceived;

Mat 24:3 As he sat on the Mount of Olives, the disciples came to him privately, saying, “Tell us, when will these things be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?”

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered them, “See that no one leads you astray.

Mat 24:5 For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am the Christ,’ and they will lead many astray.

And to be on guard for the wolves amongst the sheep given by the Apostle Paul :

[In Acts: -]

[[Comparing Mat 13: Parables, Paul’s 7 Epistles, Rev 7 Letters](#)]

Act 20:28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood

Act 20:29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

Act 20:30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. [sinning and convincing others to do the same]

[Again-in Romans]

Rom 16:17 I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

Rom 16:18 For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and

by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

Rom 16:19 For your obedience is known to all, so that I rejoice over you, but I want you to be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil.

Rom 16:17 I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.

Rom 16:18 For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive.

#### [And again in Galatians-]

Gal 1:6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

Gal 1:7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Gal 1:9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any *man* preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

#### In 1Corinthians;

1Co 1:11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

1Co 1:12 What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ."

1Co 1:13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

#### In 2 Corinthians;

2Co 11:4 For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

2Co 11:13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workmen, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

2Co 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

#### In Ephesians;

Eph 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

Eph 5:7 Therefore do not become partners with them;

#### In Philippians;

Php 3:18 For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears,

walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.

Php 3:19 Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.

### In Colossians;

Col 2:8 See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.

Col 2:18 Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,

Col 2:19 and not holding fast to the Head, [Jesus] from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

Col 2:20 If with Christ you died to the elemental spirits of the world, why, as if you were still alive in the world, do you submit to regulations—

Col 2:21 “Do not handle, Do not taste, Do not touch”

Col 2:22 (referring to things that all perish as they are used)—according to human precepts and teachings?

Col 2:23 These have indeed an appearance of wisdom in promoting self-made religion and asceticism and severity to the body, but they are of no value in stopping the indulgence of the flesh.

### In 2 Thessalonians;

2Th 3:1 Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you,

2Th 3:2 and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith.

### In 1 Timothy;

1Ti 1:3 As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine,

1Ti 1:4 nor to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies, which promote speculations rather than the stewardship from God that is by faith.

1Ti 1:6 Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion,

1Ti 1:7 desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

1Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,

1Ti 4:2 through the insincerity of liars whose consciences are seared,

1Ti 4:3 who forbid marriage and require abstinence from foods that God created to be

received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.

1Ti 6:3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness,

1Ti 6:4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions,

1Ti 6:5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

1Ti 6:9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

### In 2Timothy;

2Ti 3:1 But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty.

2Ti 3:2 For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,

2Ti 3:3 heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good,

2Ti 3:4 treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

2Ti 3:5 having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.

2Ti 3:6 For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions,

2Ti 3:7 always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.

2Ti 3:8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men corrupted in mind and disqualified regarding the faith.

2Ti 3:9 But they will not get very far, for their folly will be plain to all, as was that of those two men.

2Ti 4:3 For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,

2Ti 4:4 and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

### In Titus;

Tit 1:14 not devoting themselves to Jewish myths and the commands of people who turn away from the truth.

Tit 1:15 To the pure, all things are pure, but to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

Tit 1:16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Tit 3:9 But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the

law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.

Tit 3:10 As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him,

Tit 3:11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned.

#### In Hebrews;

Heb 6:4 For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit,

Heb 6:5 and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come,

Heb 6:6 and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt. [Rejecting the saving grace of Christ by the cross and the resurrection]

Heb 13:9 Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them.

#### James said;

Jas 4:4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

#### Peter said;

2Pe 2:1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing upon themselves swift destruction.

2Pe 2:2 And many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of truth will be blasphemed.

2Pe 2:3 And in their greed they will exploit you with false words. Their condemnation from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep.

2Pe 2:12 But these, like irrational animals, creatures of instinct, born to be caught and destroyed, blaspheming about matters of which they are ignorant, will also be destroyed in their destruction,

2Pe 2:13 suffering wrong as the wage for their wrongdoing. They count it pleasure to revel in the daytime. They are blots and blemishes, reveling in their deceptions, while they feast with you.

2Pe 2:14 They have eyes full of adultery, insatiable for sin. They entice unsteady souls. They have hearts trained in greed. Accursed children!

2Pe 2:15 Forsaking the right way, they have gone astray. They have followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved gain from wrongdoing,

2Pe 2:16 but was rebuked for his own transgression; a speechless donkey spoke with



human voice and restrained the prophet's madness.

2Pe 2:17 These are waterless springs and mists driven by a storm. For them the gloom of utter darkness has been reserved.

2Pe 2:18 For, speaking loud boasts of folly, they entice by sensual passions of the flesh those who are barely escaping from those who live in error.

2Pe 2:19 They promise them freedom, but they themselves are slaves of corruption. For whatever overcomes a person, to that he is enslaved.

2Pe 2:20 For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first.

2Pe 2:21 For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them.

2Pe 2:22 What the true proverb says has happened to them: "The dog returns to its own vomit, and the sow, after washing herself, returns to wallow in the mire."

2Pe 3:3 knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires.

2Pe 3:4 They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."

2Pe 3:17 You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability.

#### In the Epistles of John it is;

1Jn 2:22 Who is the liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This is the antichrist, he who denies the Father and the Son.

1Jn 2:23 No one who denies the Son has the Father. Whoever confesses the Son has the Father also.

1Jn 2:24 Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father.

2Jn 1:7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not confess the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh. Such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist.

2Jn 1:8 Watch yourselves, so that you may not lose what we have worked for, but may win a full reward.

#### Jude says;

Jud 1:4 For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

Jud 1:8 Yet in like manner these people also, relying on their dreams, defile the flesh, reject authority, and blaspheme the glorious ones.

Jud 1:10 But these people blaspheme all that they do not understand, and they are

destroyed by all that they, like unreasoning animals, understand instinctively.  
Jud 1:19 It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit.

and reiterated in the 7 Letters by **metaphors** for religious hypocrisy:

Topic Notes – Hosea]

**Sexual immorality** = worship of anything other than Christ [SELF, fame, fortune, sex, drugs, rock and roll, science, gia, ancestors, random chance... etc.]

Mat 15:18 But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person.

Mat 15:19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.

Col 3:5 Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

**Eating food offered to idols** = Ecumenicalism – [going along with whatever so as to not be labeled as a trouble maker, racist, etc.= preservation and/or promotion of status]

1Co 8:1>10:29

1Co 8:4 Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.”

1Co 8:7 However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

1Co 8:8 Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do.

1Co 8:9 But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak.

1Co 10:27 If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience.

1Co 10:28 But if someone says to you, “This has been offered in sacrifice,” then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—

1Co 10:29 I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience?

1Co 10:31 So, whether you eat or drink, or **whatever you do**, do all to the glory of God.

**Nicolaitans** = deification of the clergy over the parishioners [Bishops, Cardinals, Popes, and other layers of government within the Church (self-promotion, quest for control)]

1Ti 1:5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good

conscience and a sincere faith.

1Ti 1:6 Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion,

1Ti 1:7 desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

1Ti 3:2 Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,

1Ti 3:3 not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

1Ti 3:4 He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive,

1Ti 3:5 for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?

1Ti 3:6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil.

1Ti 3:7 Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

1Ti 3:8 Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain.

1Ti 6:3 If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness,

1Ti 6:4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions,

1Ti 6:5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain.

1Ti 6:9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

1Ti 6:10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Tit 1:10 For there are many who are insubordinate, empty talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision party.

Tit 1:11 They must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for shameful gain what they ought not to teach.

Tit 1:16 They profess to know God, but they deny him by their works. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work.

Jas 1:26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

Jas 1:27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

**“The deep things of Satan”** = Secret ceremonies that take the initiate into a higher class of knowledge (eg. **Gnosticism**) that opens a network of access and gives them a higher rung on the ladder than the ordinary peon.

**Synagogue of Satan** = Deceivers [claiming to be an apostle, prophet, or anything else, to build themselves up in the eyes of man instead of God]

**Neither cold nor hot** = non-committal [afraid to stand for the Lord so that you won't offend anyone's feelings and/or lose your status in their eyes]

Rev 2:21 And I gave her space [time] to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

Rev 2:22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into [The] great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

**Mat 7:21** “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

Rev 2:23 And I will kill her [Jezebel's] children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. [The Bema seat Judgement for Raptured believers;] [Topic Notes – Crowns]

[or; If they miss the Rapture, they will be confronted with the choice of taking the Mark of the Beast, and the judgement thereof, or being killed outright.]

**Remedy;** -Rev 2:24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

Rev 2:25 But that which ye have *already* hold fast till I come. [Rapture reference]

**Individual's admonition;** Rev 2:26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

Rev 2:27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

Rev 2:28 And I will give him the morning star.

Rev 2:29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

**Sardis** = Denominational Church (late reformation), 1162-1522ad, era of corruption,

"In Name Only", Lesson = watchfulness and diligence

**From; Rev 3:1** “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. “I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead.

**Good Report;** Rev 3:4 Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, [been corrupted] and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy.

**Bad Report;** Rev 3:2 Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God

**Remedy;** Rev 3:3 Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

**Rev 16:15** (“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”),

**2Pe\_3:10** But the day of the Lord [starts with the Rapture and ends with the Return] will come like a thief, and then [After the White Throne Judgement] the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.,

**1Th 5:2** For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

**1Th 5:3** While people are saying, “There is peace and security,”

[The 7 years of peace after the Psalms 83 war at the 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet Judgement]

then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. [The fall of Satan, (3<sup>rd</sup> Trumpet) the Rise of the Anti-Christ, (5<sup>th</sup> Trumpet) the Mark of the Beast, (6<sup>th</sup> Trumpet) the Eze 38:&39: war, (7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet) the Return of Christ (7<sup>th</sup> Bowl)]

**1Th 5:4** But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief.

1Th 5:5 For you are all children of light, [Instruction] children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [Ignorance]

**Individual’s admonition;** Rev 3:5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, [Justified, Sanctified, Glorified]

Rev 7:9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; [the Raptured]

Rev 7:10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. .

and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.

3:6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

**Philadelphia**= Missionary Church, 1522-1822ad, era of Revival, "Brotherly Love",

Lesson = outreach and the Rapture

**From;** Rev 3:7 "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. ["open door" is a reference to the rapture]

**Isa 22:22** And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

**Good Report;** **Rev 3:8** "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.

Rev 3:9 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.

Rev 3:10 Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from [the Rapture] the hour of trial [the Tribulation] that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth.

**Bad Report;** None

**Remedy;** None

**Individual's admonition;** Rev 3:11 I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. [Get ready, Be ready]

Rev 3:12 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.

[Peoples names were inscribed on the Temple pillars in memorandum of good deeds]

Rev 3:13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

**Laodicea** = The Apostate Church, 1882ad>, era of complacency, "People Rule",

Lesson = repent, turn back to God

**From;** Rev 3:14 “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation. [Joh1:1 >] [Pro 8:22]

[Jesus is everything this Church is not – Truly believing, Loyal, Honest, and full of Wisdom]

**Good Report; None**

**Bad Report;** Rev 3:15 “I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! [Non-committal hypocrites]

Exo 20:7 Thou shalt not take [bear the title of] the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Rev 3:16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

**Mat 7:22** On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’

Mat 7:23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

Rev 3:17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. [Topic Notes – Hosea]

[Wretched, pitiable]

Isa 64:6 All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a filthy rag; we all shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind, our iniquities sweep us away.

[Poor]

Pro 13:7 One pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.

Pro 21:17 Whoever loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich.

Jer 5:4 Then I said, “These are only the poor; they have no sense; for they do not know the way of the LORD, the justice of their God

[Blind]

Joh 3:3 Jesus replied to him, "Truly, I tell you with certainty, unless a person is born from above he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Mat 15:14 Leave them alone. They are blind guides of the blind. If one blind person leads another blind person, both will fall into a ditch."

Mat\_23:17 You blind fools! What is more important, the gold or the sanctuary that made the gold holy?

Mat\_23:19 You blind men! Which is more important, the gift or the altar that makes the gift holy?

Mat\_23:24 You blind guides! You filter out a gnat, yet swallow a camel!

Mat\_23:26 You blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup, so that its outside may also be clean.

2Pe 1:5 For this very reason, you must make every effort to supplement your faith with moral character, your moral character with knowledge,

2Pe 1:6 your knowledge with self-control, your self-control with endurance, your endurance with godliness,

2Pe 1:7 your godliness with brotherly kindness, and your brotherly kindness with love.

2Pe 1:8 For if you possess these qualities, and if they continue to increase among you, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in attaining a full knowledge of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah.

2Pe 1:9 For the person who lacks these qualities is blind and shortsighted, and has forgotten the cleansing that he has received from his past sins.

[Naked]

Hab 2:16 You are filled with dishonor instead of glory. So go ahead, drink and be naked! The LORD will turn against you, and utter disgrace will debase your reputation.

**Remedy; Rev 3:18** I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, (Purification/Justification) so that you may be rich, (Faith and Grace) and white garments (Sanctification) so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, (Justification) and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. (Receiving the Holy Spirit)

Isa 55:1 "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Pro 8:10 Take my instruction instead of silver, and knowledge rather than choice gold,

Zec 3:4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, "Remove the filthy garments from him." And to him he said, "Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments."

Isa 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Joh 3:3 Jesus replied to him, "Truly, I tell you with certainty, unless a person is born from above he cannot see the kingdom of God."

Rev 3:19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

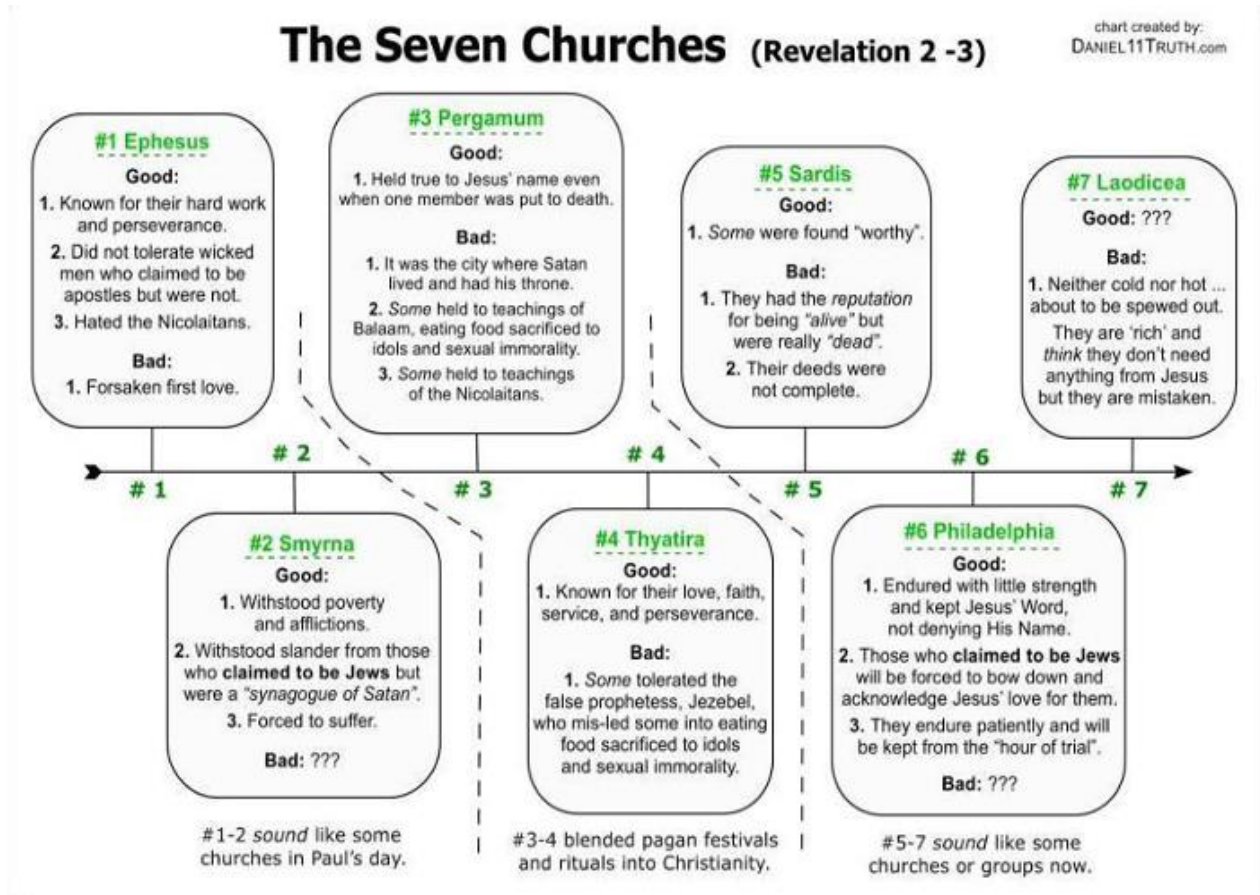
Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. (Jesus is outside of the Church!!) If anyone (individual, has He given up on the "Church"?) hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. [John 3:16 - ..."whomsoever" ...]

**Individual's admonition;** Rev 3:21 The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my



throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.  
 Rev 3:22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

[Pay attention!]



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