

**SARDIS: A Powerless Church**  
**REVELATION 3:1-6**  
**SEPTEMBER 07, 2022**

**“To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, and yet you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Be constantly alert, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. <sup>3</sup> So remember what you have received and heard; and keep *it*, and repent. Then if you are not alert, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. <sup>4</sup> But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who overcomes will be clothed the same way, in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. <sup>6</sup> The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’**

The majority of churches across the world are dead churches. 70% of Southern Baptist churches are plateaued or dead.

Nearly half of SBC churches will baptize **10** or less in a given year.

Five reasons why churches die.

- (1) Success
- (2) Tradition
- (3) Prejudice
- (4) Complaint

(5) Stop Evangelizing

Every Church Goes Through Four Stages.

(1) Man.

(2) Movement.

(3) Machine.

(4) Monument.

Signs of Life In A Church.

- (1). Attitude of Praise
- (2). Atmosphere of Praying
- (3). Continual Growth
- (4). Contagious
- (5). Biblical unity
- (6). Love
- (7). Effectual Prayer

When a church is more concerned about form than fire, about ritual over reality, about the material more than the spiritual. And about what reaches the head, more than what reaches the heart, it is dead.

BOTTOM LINE: A church lives only as its individual

Members. For The Church of Sardis to become vibrant again, Jesus issued five imperatives.

- (1). Wake up
- (2). Strengthen
- (3). Remember

(4). Obey

(5). Repent