

Book of Revelation Chapters 2 and 3

Introduction

The seven churches of Revelation were actual churches in Asia Minor. They are also representative churches.



Center of Revelation is Revelation 12:11.

Ephesus:

Each letter begins with a statement which refers back to the vision of Jesus in Chapter 1.

2:5 **Repent** is the key word in 5 of the 7 letters. Means turn around—change your mind.

To remove the lampstand indicates, God removes His anointing and favor.

2:6 Jesus hates Nicolaitans. Nico: Conquer Layos: Laity, (people)

2:7 Victorious – committed entirely to Jesus Christ.

Not knows a lot but lives by faith

Smyrna: No correction given to this church.

2:10 They will suffer. Ten days indicates ongoing (Gen. 31:7).

Pergamum:

2:11 Teaching of Balaam – carnal influences, gratifying.

His word is the Sword (2:16) which will destroy the flesh of those who hold such things.

2:17 Victorious receive hidden manna: a dynamic portion of God's word.

Thyatira:

Jezebel, The “prophet” and the so-called deep secrets. John characterized these doctrines with names familiar to the readers.

Satan is the author of lies and rebellion, as is Jezebel’s teaching.

We will be judged, not for salvation but for deeds (works).
(1 Corinthians 3:12 – 15).

2:28 From Psalm 2:9, Messiah will rule as an absolute and benevolent King.

Sardis:

3:1 Alive but dead! You must return and revive the basics.

3:4 Not soiled their clothes is walking in purity.

God is more interested in your direction than your perfection.

Philadelphia:

3:7 Key of David: Key of authority (Matt 16:19).

3:8 Church was given an open door. Obedience was the key.

Laodicea:

The lukewarm, materialistic church. Lukewarm means passive and indifferent.

3:17 They measured their strength by what they had materially but God called them wretched and poor.

3:18 Buy from me gold: spend yourself for the kingdom for riches in eternity.

3:19 The great balance of love and authority in Jesus.

Conclusion:

1. Devotion to duty is no guarantee of spiritual maturity.
2. Repentance is the pathway to the victorious life.
3. The recurring errors in the church: spiritual lethargy, corrupted ministry, tolerated immorality and legalism.
4. The Holy Spirit still speaks to the Church.