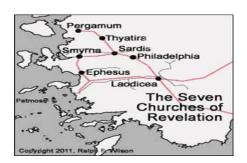
# Book of Revelation Chapters 2 and 3

# **Introduction**

The seven churches of Revelation were actual churches in Asia Minor. They are also <u>representative</u> 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: <u>Conquer</u> Layos: <u>Laity, (people)</u>

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 <u>ongoing</u> (Gen. 31:7).

# Pergamum:

2:11 Teaching of Balaam – <u>carnal influences</u>, <u>gratifying</u>.

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 <u>salvation</u> but for <u>deeds (works).</u> (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 <u>had materially</u> but God called them wretched and <u>poor</u>.
- 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 <u>lethargy</u>, corrupted ministry, tolerated <u>immorality</u> and legalism.
- 4. The Holy Spirit still speaks to the Church.