

Revelation 3: The Church on Earth [Cont.] Jesus Judges the Dead, the Faithful, and the Lukewarm Churches

Remember to Lift Up the Lord Jesus Christ

Chapter 2 Review: The "Church on Earth"

Ephesus: The Loveless Church: Pentecost - 100A.D.; no Nicolaitans [False Apostles]

Smyrna: The Persecuted Church: 100A.D.-314 A.D Persecuted by Rome and Synagogue of Satan [False-Jews]

Pergamos: The Compromising Church [Constantine] 314-590 A.D.; **allowing** teachers of Baalamism/Nicolaitans

Thyatira: The Corrupt Church; Word of God scarce: 590-1517 A.D.; Teaching of Jezebel allowed; Church Age: Word kept from the people

*Now the boy Samuel ministered to the LORD before Eli. **And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no widespread revelation.** [1 Samuel 3:1]*

Revelation 3: The Church on Earth

Sardis: The Dead Church [Protestant Age] *****

Church Age: 1517-1800 A.D.

History:

Capital of Lydia; one of the oldest and most important cities in Asia-Minor

Center of carpet industry and noted for its wealth

Coins first minted here; the home of Aesop and 30 miles SE of Thyatira

Ruled by: Persians, Alexander, Antiochus the Great and Rome;

destroyed by earthquake during the reign of Tiberious

Worship of Cybele resembled that of Diana of Ephesus

Word of God now available yet NO commendation! Well maybe a little

Salutation

¹ "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says **He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.**

He Who "Has" stars; not "holds" stars [angels] as in Ephesus and **He Who "Has" Seven Spirits** to give freely to those who ask

Luke 11:13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**"

I know your works and I know others see your "works"

"Famous" ...but DEAD; have the Word but no Life and Power from the Spirit; This time not defiled by false teachers, but by their own "dead" works

"Great Physician" prescribes the remedy for a Spiritually "dead" church/individual; one whose works are not perfect/complete; i.e. not Spirit led/Spirit empowered

Watch: For Jesus

Strengthen: What you have

Remember: God's Spirit and Power

Hold Fast: God, His Word, Good Examples, your testimony.

Repent: Act quickly received Truth from God

I. Watch for Jesus Soon Return

² **Be watchful**, and **strengthen the things which remain**, that are **ready to die**, for I have **not found your works perfect before God**.

Imperfect works: Works of the flesh; defilement; death; impurity.

Titus 2:12 ...we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, ¹³ looking for the blessed hope and **glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and **purify** for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has **this hope in Him purifies himself**, just as He is pure.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?>

search=Luke+21:28&version=NIV" [Luke 21:28](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+21:28&version=NIV) ...when these things begin to happen [Great Tribulation], look up and lift up your heads, because your **redemption draws **near**."**

II. Strengthen what Remains

Strengthen what **Remains** , it is ready to die become defiled v.4
Strengthen what you know is of Jesus; He is for us:

Matthew 12:20 "A BATTERED REED HE WILL NOT BREAK OFF,AND A SMOLDERING WICK HE WILL NOT PUT OUT,UNTIL HE LEADS JUSTICE TO VICTORY.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+58:8&version=NKJV" [Isaiah 58:8](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+58:8&version=NKJV) Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your righteousness shall go before you; **The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.**

III. Remember the Power of the Holy Spirit

³ Remember therefore how you have **received** and **heard; hold fast and repent.**

Remember what you **Received by Hearing;** i.e. the Spirit of God

Hearing/Receiving

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1:13&version=NKJV" [Ephesians 1:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1:13&version=NKJV) In Him you also trusted, after you **heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise...**

Galatians 3:2b ... Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith... 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, *does He do it* by the works of the law, or by **the hearing of faith?**

Take Heed

Callousness: Hard heart, stiff-necked, lack of discernment, dull of hearing

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+8:18&version=NKJV>" [Luke 8:18](#) Therefore **take heed how you hear**. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him."

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+4:2&version=NKJV>" [Hebrews 4:2](#) ...the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard **did not profit them**, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

Life of the Spirit for Salvation

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.**

John 20:21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit**".

Promise of the Spirit for Power

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**

Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are **endued with power** [dunamis] from on high."

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+1:4&version=NKJV>" [Acts 1:4](#) ...being assembled together with them, [Jesus] commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the **Promise of the Father**, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." **Acts 1:8** But you shall **receive power** [dunamis] when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power [dunamis] and of love and of a sound mind.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3:14&version=NKJV" [Galatians 3:14](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Galatians+3:14&version=NKJV) ...the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the **promise of the Spirit** through faith

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1:13&version=NKJV" [Ephesians 1:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+1:13&version=NKJV) In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the **Holy Spirit of promise...**

Combined, these verses show that the Holy Spirit gives a believer:
Effectiveness for God's **will** to be done through him/her
Effectiveness for God's **work** to be done through him/her

Hold Fast: There is no neutral in the Christian life; Jesus would not say "hold fast" unless they were holding loosely:

IV. Hold Fast

*Hold Fast to **God the Father:***

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Joshua+22:5&version=NKJV" [Joshua 22:5](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Joshua+22:5&version=NKJV) ...take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to **hold fast to Him**, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

*Hold Fast to **God the Son:***

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2:19&version=NKJV" [Colossians 2:19](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2:19&version=NKJV) [Hold] **fast to the Head**, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

*Hold Fast to **God's Word:***

1 Corinthians 15:1 ...the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you **hold fast that word which I preached to** you [i.e. Gospel]unless you believed in vain.

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 **holding fast the word of life**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:21&version=NKJV" [1 Thessalonians 5:21](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:21&version=NKJV) Test all things; **hold fast what is good**.

*Hold Fast to **Godly Examples:***

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+1:13&version=NKJV" [2 Timothy 1:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+1:13&version=NKJV) **Hold fast the pattern of sound words** which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+3:10&version=NKJV" [2 Timothy 3:10](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+3:10&version=NKJV) ...you have carefully **followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance...**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3:17&version=NKJV" [Philippians 3:17](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3:17&version=NKJV) ...join in following my example, and **note those who so walk**, as you have us for a pattern.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Thessalonians+3:7&version=NKJV" [2 Thessalonians 3:7](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Thessalonians+3:7&version=NKJV) ...you yourselves know how you ought to **follow us**, for we were not disorderly among you...

*Hold Fast to **your Testimony:***

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12:11&version=NIV" [Revelation 12:11](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12:11&version=NIV) ... they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the **word of their**

testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+4:14&version=NKJV" [Hebrews 4:14](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+4:14&version=NKJV) Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold fast our confession**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+10:23&version=NKJV" [Hebrews 10:23](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+10:23&version=NKJV) Let us hold fast the **confession of our hope** without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

V. Repent

Repent: Take the next off ramp, go over the freeway and head the opposite direction! For Sardis and Churches/Individual Spiritually Dead, this means to be:

Watching: Look up for your Redemption draws near

Strengthening: Cling to what you have left of your walk by...

Remembering: What you received when you heard God's Word; i.e. Salvation and Power from the Spirit and...

Holding Fast: God, His Word, Good Examples, your testimony.

Repent: Act quickly on received Truth from God

3b Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

If you will not watch...I will come upon you!; Historical sore spot for Sardis:

549 BC. Median soldier scaled the walls as the guard slept

218 BC. Cretan slipped over the wall as sentries were careless

Thief: Not a reference to the 2nd coming, but present coming in judgment

He will not come like a thief to true believers...just make-believers:

Thessalonians 5:2 ...you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night... **4** But you, brethren, **are not in darkness**, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

⁴ You have a **few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments**; and they shall walk with Me in white, for **they are worthy**.

Not Defiled: i.e. not "Touching death" with dead works; i.e. "filthy rags". Wrong motives, wrong heart, for personal gain etc.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+64:6&version=NKJV>" [Isaiah 64:6](#) ...we are all like an unclean thing, And **all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Compared with **"garments of Salvation"**

Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful 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 with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Revelation 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen **is the righteous acts of the saints**.

NOTE: These garments [righteousness] are given by the Father to the Bride [us]; the groom [Jesus] sees the Bride as perfect though practically her works are flawed:

Revelation 3:2...I have not found your works perfect before God...

Matthew 22:10 ...those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. 12 So he said to him, **'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?'** And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness;

there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Concluding Remarks

5 He who **overcomes** shall be clothed in **white garments**, and I will not **blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Overcomes: Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? [**1 John 5:5**]

White Garments: Righteous acts of the saints [Rev. 19:8]

All who overcome are written in the Book of Life and exemplified by confessing Jesus to the world and Jesus confessing him/her to the Father

BLOTTED OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE?

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20John+2:2&version=NKJV>" 1 John 2:2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only **but also for the whole world.**

Every soul ever conceived in the womb is a name written in the **Book of Life**

If Christ is received before physical death...the name stays
If Christ is rejected before physical death...name is blotted out; i.e. lake of fire

Luke 12:10 "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who **blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven.**

6 "He who **has an ear, let him hear** what the Spirit says to the churches."

Do we have an ear...hear what God is saying and do it!

Sardis Application: Three groups of people:

Unsaved: Dead spiritually; must receive the Spirit which gives Life

Saved and filled with power to overcome: Persevere and Hold Tight

Saved but powerless: This group is called to repent; i.e. be alert as to the imminent coming of Jesus Christ, strengthen what little you

have by remembering the Word you heard and receiving the Promise of the Spirit which brings power unto good works. Jesus is with you!

" **A BATTERED REED HE WILL NOT BREAK OFF, AND A SMOLDERING WICK HE WILL NOT PUT OUT, UNTIL HE LEADS JUSTICE TO VICTORY. [Matthew 12:20]**

Philadelphia: The Faithful Church [Missionary Age] ***** **Church Age: 1800-Rapture**

History:

Excellent wine and vineyards; 50 miles SE of Sardis

Built on four or five hills in picturesque setting

Longest lasting city of the seven though frequented by earthquakes

Today known as Alasehir; then **Philadelphia**: "Brotherly Love" named after its founder King Attalus of Pergamos in honor of his brother

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with **brotherly love** [Philadelphia], in honor giving preference to one another..

Salutation

⁷ "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is **holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens":**

First salutation not referring back to Jesus description in Chapter 1
He Who is: Holy, True, has the "Key of David", Open/Closes doors

I. He Who is Holy: Separated from Sin

Holy at **Birth**

Luke 1:35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that **Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.**

Holy at **Death**

Acts 2:27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your **Holy One to see corruption.**

Holy as our High **Priest**

Hebrews 7:26 For such a High Priest was fitting for us, **who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens...**

II. He Who is True: Jesus and His Word

Psalm 33:4 For the word of the LORD *is* right, And **all His work is done in truth**.

Revelation 19:11 ...I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him *was* called **Faithful and True**, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

Revelation 21:5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these **words are true and faithful**." ⁶ And He said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. ⁷ He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

Inherit: The Kingdom:

III. He Who Holds the Key of David: Millennial Kingdom

Isaiah 22:22 The **key of the house of David** I will lay on his shoulder; So he shall open, and no one shall shut; And he shall shut, and no one shall open.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the **throne of David and over His kingdom**, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of host will perform this.

Luke 1:32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the **throne of His father David**.

Zechariah 8:3 "Thus says the LORD: 'I will return to Zion, And dwell in the midst of Jerusalem. Jerusalem shall be called the City of Truth, The Mountain of the LORD of hosts, The Holy Mountain.' ⁴ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Old men and old women shall again sit In the streets of Jerusalem, Each one with his staff in his hand Because of great age. ⁵ The streets of the city Shall be full of boys and girls Playing in its streets.' **...8:23** "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'In those days ten men from every language of the nations shall grasp the sleeve of a Jewish man, saying, "Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.'""

IV. He Who Opens/Closes Doors: Ministry/Reward

⁸ "I know your **works**. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a **little strength**, have **kept My word**, and have **not denied My name**."

Paraphrase: *"You have wisely used the little strength you have to do things that are pleasing in my sight; you have kept My Word and you have not denied My Name; because of this I will give you an open door for witnessing to and reaching a lost world"*

Little strength: I.e. wholly dependent on the Lord; humble unlike Sardis who "had a name" but were dead; these guys *do not* have a name but are ALIVE! They read God's Word and Kept God's Word:

Kept My Word: Word Keepers and did not compromise as others; sinful man and the devil have always tried to:

Repudiate [disprove] God's Eternal Word; 3000+ years and counting

Dilute God's Eternal Word; Thomas Jefferson, JW' s

Allegorize i.e. Spiritualize everything, as opposed to literal interpretation

Ignore God's Eternal Word; to their own demise

1 Timothy 6:20 O Timothy! **Guard what was committed to your trust**, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge...

2 Timothy 1:13 Hold fast the **pattern of sound words** which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to **contend earnestly for the faith** which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Colossians 1:23 [You will present yourself holy and blameless in His sight] if indeed you continue in the faith, **grounded and steadfast**, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard...

Philadelphia kept God's Word and were not ashamed of the Name that saves:

Did not deny My Name

Luke 12:8 "...whoever confesses Me before men, him the **Son of Man also will confess before the angels of God**. 9 But he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God.

Acts 4: 11 This is the 'stone which was rejected by you builders, which has become the chief cornerstone.' 12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is **no other name under heaven** given among men by which we must be saved." 13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been

with Jesus.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+1:16&version=NKJV" [Romans 1:16](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+1:16&version=NKJV) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

Did not deny Jesus name leading to an open door of ministry:

Open Door: Witnessing/ Eternal Reward

1 Corinthians 16:9 For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries.

Revelation 4:1 After these things [church age] I looked, and behold, a **door standing open** in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

⁹ Indeed I will **make those of the synagogue of Satan**, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed **I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.**

Synagogue of Satan: Make-believers who would come against Philadelphia as they sought to "keep Jesus' Word" trying to force them to "deny His Name"; legalists who sought a priesthood and rituals;
Common experience for the 2 faithful churches; i.e. Smyrna and Philadelphia

Worship at your feet; not worship of believers in Philadelphia, but Jesus:

Revelation 22:8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, "**See that you do not do that.** For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. **Worship God.**"

Philippians 2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Make-believers who seek self-worship will now know Jesus love for true believers:

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. 5 **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;** You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Psalm 18:39 For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have **subdued under me those who rose up against me.**

¹⁰ Because you have **kept My command to persevere** [the Word of My patience KJV], I also will **keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world**, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Seven Points of Commendation from Jesus to Philadelphia:

You work and it passes Jesus test [c.f. Laodicea]
You have an open door...for ministry and eternal reward
You have a little strength...and you use it
You kept My Word...while others did not
You did not deny My Name...even when persecuted
Your enemies will know My love for you...validated/vindicated
You have kept my Word in patience; i.e. waiting for the Rapture

Tribulation in Smyrna was caused by Satan to believers; the Great Tribulation is brought about by God and unleashed on sinful man.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2:5&version=NKJV>" Romans 2:5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are **treasuring up for yourself wrath** in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God...

Philadelphia **KNEW** and **OBEYED** the command to persevere; They were **true believers** and will be kept from the Great Tribulation

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14:15&version=NASB>" John 14:15 "If you love Me,

you will keep My commandments."

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14:21&version=NASB>" [John 14:21](#)" He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

True believers and will be kept from the Great Tribulation

1 Thessalonians 1:9 ...you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:9&version=NKJV>" [1 Thessalonians 5:9](#) For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ...

1 Thessalonians 4:13 ...I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, **that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord** will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore **comfort one another with these words.**

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 **looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,** 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. 15 **Speak these things,** exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

ALL of the wrath of God due us was poured out on His Son

Those who do not accept Christ's substitutionary death will know the full extent of God's wrath exacted during the "Wrath of the Lamb" and upon sinful man

One Post-Tribulationist argument: There is no reason why Christians in the last generation deserve to escape the Great Tribulation

Pre-Tribulationist response: Christians in ALL other previous generations have escaped the Great Tribulation, why should the last generation be singled out

Concluding Remarks

¹¹ Behold, **I am coming quickly! Hold fast** what you have, that no one may take your crown.

I am coming quickly... Hold fast that no one may take your crown: Implication; a crown can be taken. **HANG ON TIGHT!**

Revelation 22:12 "And behold, **I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me**, to give to every one according to his work.

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a **pillar in the temple of My God**, and he shall go out no more. 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 out of heaven from My God. And **I will write on him My new name.**

Make him a **Pillar in the temple of My God: Beauty, Stability and Strength**

Not our present in-process "Spiritual Temple"; i.e. the church and members:

Ephesians 2:19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole building, **being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord**, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:5 ...you also, as **living stones, are being built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Now those who overcome are “pillars” in the **Temple that is the Father and Son in the New Jerusalem:**

Revelation 21:22 ...I saw **no temple in [the New Jerusalem]**, for the **Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.**

To those who overcome [are Mine] I will place three marks of identification:

Name of My God: Redeemer [to be brought/bought me into “right” standing]

Name of My City: Heavenly Citizenship

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

New name of Jesus i.e. **His new Name:** [see appendix A]

Jesus new Name: More knowledge/understanding of Who He is **Jesus new name/our new name** given to us by Jesus [Rev 2:17] show us Jesus regard for individuality and his love for us as individuals with differing characteristics

13 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

...are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? [[HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians+3:3&version=NKJV" 1 Corinthians 3:3](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians+3:3&version=NKJV)]

Philadelphia Application: in spite of opposition and with just a little strength, we have the ability by and through God’s Holy Spirit to “keep His Word” and “Not Deny His Name” in our daily lives. As we obey, God will show us open doors, those “good works prepared beforehand

for us to walk in..." [Eph.2]

The eternal rewards for persevering are indescribable; Overcomers will be "pillars" in God's Temple; pillars on which are inscribed the Name of the Father, a New Name for the Son and the name of His Eternal City. Our fellowship with God and our citizenship and co-inheritance with Jesus are our eternal reward:

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.* [HYPERLINK "http://
www.biblegateway.com/passage/?
search=Psalm+16:11&version=NKJV" [Psalm 16:11](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+16:11&version=NKJV)]

A

Advocate - 1 John 2:1
Alive for Evermore - Revelation 1:18
All-Knowing - Psalm 139:1-6
All, and in All - Colossians 3:11
Almighty - Revelation 1:8
Alpha and Omega - Revelation 1:8
Altar - Hebrews 13:10
Altogether Lovely - Song of Solomon 5:16
Amen - Revelation 3:14
Ancient of Days - Daniel 7:13 & Daniel 7:22
Anointed One - 1 Samuel 2:35
Author of Eternal Salvation - Hebrews 5:9
Author of our Faith - Hebrews 12:2

B

Balm of Gilead - Jeremiah 8:22
Banner over us - Ps 60:4 S of Sol 2:4
Bearer of Sin - Hebrews 9:28
Before All Things - Colossians 1:17
Beginning and Ending - Revelation 1:8
Bishop of our Souls - 1 Peter 2:25
Blessed and Only Potentate - 1 Timothy 6:15
Blessed Hope - Titus 2:13
Bread of Life, my manna - John 6:35
Bridegroom - John 3:29
Bright and Morning Star - Revelation 22:16
Brightness of His Glory - Hebrews 1:3
Buckler - Psalms 18:30

C

Captain - Joshua 5:14-15 - Hebrews 2:10
Changeless One - Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8
Chief Among 10,000 - S. of Solomon 5:10
Chosen of God - 1 Peter 2:4
Christ - Matthew 1:16 - 1 John 5:1
Comforter - John 14:16-18
Consolation of Israel - Luke 2:25
Counselor - Isaiah 9:6
Creator - Romans 1:25 - Isaiah 40:28
Crown of Glory - Isaiah 28:5

D

Daystar to Arise - 2 Peter 1:19
Defense - Psalms 94:22
Deliverer - Psalms 40:17
Desire of all Nations - Haggai 2:7
Despised and rejected - Ps 22:6, Is 53:3
Diadem of Beauty - Isaiah 28:5
Door of the Sheep - John 10:7
Dwelling Place - Psalms 90:1

E

Emmanuel - Matthew 1:23
End of the Law - Romans 10:4

Laodicea: The Lukewarm Church Cowards

Church Age: 1800 A.D. into the Great Tribulation

History:

Laodicea means "justice of the people" and a popular woman's name

Many towns had the same name; this one 45 miles SE of Philadelphia

Famous for a Medical School known for making/exporting eye medication

Outwardly the most impressive of the seven churches, but least impressive in Jesus eyes

Sparse water supply, water was imported to Laodicea

Place of great wealth, Greek culture, science and literature w/ extensive banking operations; church members shared in that wealth!

Zeus (Jupiter) worshiped; Finally abandoned due to earthquakes; remains of two Roman theaters, a stadium and three early Christian churches

This church and believers with its characteristics **will go into the Great Tribulation** unlike Philadelphia which will be Raptured; both exist simultaneously

But the cowardly...shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

[HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+21:8&version=NKJV>" Revelation 21:8]

Lukewarm: Impotent, Diverse, Tolerant w/ Social Gospel ...**Cowardly**

Salutation

Jesus our Creator

¹⁴ "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:'

Amen: Called "the best known word in human speech" Def. 1) Firm and 2) surely, truly, a truth. Also the only reference to Ch. 1 vision of Jesus. Lit. "Jesus the True One"

Faithful and true Witness: established by the resurrection

Beginning of the creation of God or "First place" or "Ruler of..."

"What Jesus says to His creation, about His creation, and for His creation is faithful and true... Amen!"

Beginning of the creation of God; i.e. **Jesus the Creator**

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+1:3&version=NASB>**"** Isaiah 1:3 "An ox knows its owner, And a donkey its master's manger, But Israel does not know, My people do not understand." [NASB]

Paul warned nearby Colossians 30 years earlier to **recognize Jesus as Creator**

Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him.** 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Paul also warned the Colossians not to accept worldly philosophies which **leads to denial of our Creator:**

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest anyone **cheat you through philosophy** and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; ¹⁰ and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

Internal Heart Issue: Denial of the Creator i.e. **Evolution**

Cowardly; i.e. pseudo-tolerance now somehow honorable; standing for nothing and falling for anything

*I am embarrassed by Superintendent Kathy Cox's attempt to censor and distort the education of Georgia's students. Her recommendation that the word "evolution" be prohibited in textbooks will adversely effect the teaching of science and leave our high school graduates with a serious handicap as they enter college or private life where freedom of speech will be permitted. "Nationwide ridicule of Georgia's public school system will be inevitable if this proposal is adopted, and additional and undeserved discredit will be brought on our excellent universities as our state's reputation is damaged. "All high school science teachers, being college graduates, have studied evolution as a universal element of university curricula, and would be under pressure to suppress their own educated beliefs in the classroom. "The existing and long-standing use of the word "evolution" in our state's textbooks has not adversely affected Georgians' belief in the omnipotence of God as creator of the universe. There can be no incompatibility between Christian faith and proven facts concerning geology, biology, and astronomy. There is no need to teach that stars can fall out of the sky and land on a flat earth in order to defend our religious faith. "Fortunately, it is the responsibility of the State Board of Education to make the final decision on the superintendent's ill-advised proposal." Jimmy Carter **Source: The Carter Center Oklahomans for Excellence in Science Education***

¹⁵ "I know your works, that you are **neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.** ¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, **I will vomit you out of My mouth.**

Sardis was Cold and Dead but better off than Laodiceans who were:

Growing

Prosperous

Impressive w/regard to facilities but also...

Neutral on controversial but important issues of the day

People pleasers not God pleasers

Jesus can work with Hot/Cold...they are **teachable**

COLD: Refreshing/Real, sometimes harsh, but teachable

*Twenty times in a day he would confess his sins to the priest and finally the priest would tell him, 'please go.' He would tell the priest, 'there is more sin that I have to confess'. Finally they got fed up with him and they sent him to Rome. In Rome he is known to have said to a friend, 'they say that we should love God, but you know what, **I hate God.**' He said, '**I hate God, because I can't get through to God.**' He decided to climb the stairway. He got down on his knees and just as he was climbing the stairway, a word of scripture that he had read came to him.... '**The just shall live by faith.**' According to the Catholic faith, he'd been trying to find God through works. He'd been doing many things to find God. He'd read the Bible and finally the verse dawned on him, 'the just shall live by faith.' And **that one verse changed his entire life.** He went back a changed man. [Story of Martin Luther]*

HOT: Medical Purposes i.e. healing. Loving God/Man

Loving others as self

Romans 12:9 Let love be **without hypocrisy**. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Loving [fearing]God; not people-pleasers

Acts 5:28 [The religious leaders said] "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" ²⁹ But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "**We ought to obey God rather than men.**"

LUKEWARM: Half-Heated People pleasers/Cowards/ Deceived but Content/Un-teachable

Not offending man but offending God:

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+29:25&version=NKJV>" Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Impotent "gospel"

2 Timothy 3:5... having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

"Vomit you out of My mouth" lit. " I am about to..." i.e. short time to repent

Lukewarm: greater hindrance to the cause of Christ than if "dead"

It's interesting that God looks at apostasy and gets angry-but he looks at indifference and gets ill. [Jeremiah, Escape the Coming Night]

Diagnosis: Self-Deceived

The deceived do not know they are **deceived**; "...but I feel fine"
Wealthy physically, Wretched spiritually

¹⁷ Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

Laodicea [Lukewarm] says they are:

Rich

Have become wealthy

Need nothing

1 Corinthians 1:26 ...you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called.* ²⁷ But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and **God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;** ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹ that no flesh should glory in His presence. ³⁰ But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— ³¹ that, as it is written, **"He who glories, let him glory in the LORD**

Jesus [Creator/Designer] says they are:

Wretched
Miserable
Poor
Blind
Naked

Conservative, Evangelical, Charismatic, Fundamentalist; many w/big church buildings, many programs, impressed with self ["I have... become wealthy"]

Denying/Cowering from:

True Creationism i.e. Seven literal days, Adam and Eve, etc

Complete Biblical Inerrancy i.e. No "Pauline" letter nonsense

Complete Biblical Authority i.e. The final Word

Speaking of literalist Jimmy Carter said...quoting a few carefully selected Bible verses and claiming that Eve was created second to Adam and was responsible for original sin, ordained that women must be "subservient" to their husbands and prohibited from serving as deacons, pastors or chaplains in the military service.

"Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil." C.S. Lewis

Counselor's Prescription

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called **Wonderful, Counselor**, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Our Creator is our **Counselor**

18 I counsel you to buy from Me **gold refined** in the fire, that you may be **rich**; and **white garments**, that you may be **clothed**, that the shame of your **nakedness** may not be revealed; and **anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.**

Poor=Works of the flesh that will be burn; wood, hay, stubble
Rich [Gold]=Redemption without cost [to us]; recognize our need and come; leading to works that will not burn [Spirit led] **Gold Standard**

Isaiah 55:1 "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And **you who have no money**, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.

1 Peter 1:7 [let] the genuineness of your faith, being much **more precious than gold** that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and

glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ...

Nakedness revealed =Humiliation; i.e. false motives
Clothed [White Garments]= His righteousness working through us

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like **filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+19:8&version=NKJV>**"** Revelation 19:8 ...to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Blindness=Deception

Sight [Eye Salve]... right priorities, treasure in heaven, seek first God

Laodicea exported an eye salve leading to pride and riches...and blindness

Mark 4:18 Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, 19 and the cares of this world, the **deceitfulness of riches**, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

Ephesians 1:17 ...the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and **revelation in the knowledge of Him...**

Sons and Daughters of God

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

Jesus loves by:

Rebuke

Chastisement

Proverbs 3:11 My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; 12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.

Hebrews 12:5 ...they have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: " My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him;6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." 7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not

much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. 11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. 12 **Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down**, and the feeble knees, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that **what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed**. 14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any **root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled**; 16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. 17 For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

Jesus commands the lukewarm to:

Zealousness

Repentance

Zealous to seek God's Word/Will and **Repent** of those things in our life that do not line up with both

Defile Many: Social Gospel; a god of our own making for our own purposes:

"...our individual salvation depends on collective salvation. Because thinking only about yourself, fulfilling your immediate wants and needs, betrays a poverty of ambition. Because it's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential and discover the role you'll play in writing the next great chapter in America's story ..." [BO]

Concluding Remarks

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If **anyone hears** My voice and **opens** the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

"If anyone..." Individual lukewarm individuals in the church, not corporate church

Hears

Opens

Jesus will:

Come into him/ those who open their hearts

Dine with him

Revelation 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Jesus knocking on the door of His own church

Gracious Jesus: We are the needy ones and should be knocking on His door!

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10:45&version=NKJV>" Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man **did not come to be served, but to serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Isaiah 25:6 And in this mountain **The LORD of hosts will make for all people A feast of choice pieces**, A feast of wines on the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of well-refined wines on the lees. 7 And He will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the veil that is spread over all nations. 8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces...

Luke 12:35 "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; 36 and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that **he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.** 38 And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. 39 **But know this**, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." [Thief in the night]

Overcomers and the Age to Come

Ephesus

Revelation 2:7 To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the **tree of life**, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

Revelation 22:2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, *was* the **tree of life**, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of

the nations.

Smyrna

Revelation 2:11 He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the **second death**.”

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the **second death has no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Pergamos

Revelation 2:17 And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a **new name** written which no one knows except him who receives *it*.”

Revelation 22:4 They shall see His face, and **His name shall be on their foreheads**.

Thyatira

Revelation 2:28 ...and I will give him the morning star.

Revelation 22:16 “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and **Morning Star**.”

Sardis

Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in **white garments**

Revelation 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the **fine linen** is the righteous acts of the saints.

Philadelphia

Revelation 3:12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. 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 out of heaven from My God

Revelation 22:2 In the middle of **its street** [New Jerusalem], and on either side of the river, *was* the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

Laodicea

21 To him who **overcomes** I will grant to **sit with Me on My throne**, as I also overcame and sat down **with My Father on His throne**.

Overcomers will sit with Jesus on His throne!; those previous to repenting were about to be “spewed out of His mouth”! From lukewarm to leading!

Luke 19:16 Then came the first, saying, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten minas.’ 17 And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have **authority over ten cities**.’

2 Timothy 2:12 If we endure, **We shall also reign with Him**.

2 Thrones of Jesus

Millennial Throne: The Throne of **David**

Revelation 20:4 And **I saw thrones**, and they [Tribulation Saints who

heeded Jesus council to repent AFTER the Tribulation begins, did not receive the mark...Laodicea] sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they **lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.**

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+1:32&version=NKJV>" Luke 1:32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the **throne of His father David.**

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+9:7&version=NKJV>" Isaiah 9:7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the **throne of David** and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+16:5&version=NKJV>" Isaiah 16:5 In mercy the **throne** will be established; And One will sit on it in truth, in the **tabernacle of David**, Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."

Eternal Throne: The Throne of the **Father** and **Son**

1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits**, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

Revelation 7:15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. 16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; 17 for the **Lamb who is in the midst of the throne** will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, **but the throne of God and of the Lamb** shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him... **forever and ever.**

22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.""

Last mention of the church until:

Revelation 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

Laodicea Application: Denying our Creator and His Word leads to compromise and self-deception i.e. un-teachable, content/hell-bound. The social gospel can no more save its hearers than its proponents. Jesus is "sickened" as he sees those he loves deceiving and being deceived by a lukewarm cowardly make-believe version of His Eternal Truth. We are to be:

Zealous as we seek Truth from God's Word

Repent when our lives are out of line with God's revealed Truth

True Gospel: Jesus is God Who came to this earth and was manifested in the flesh. He died a substitutionary, voluntary death in our place as the wrath we deserved on account of our sin was poured out by God the Father on His perfect Son Jesus. We are to repent and exchange our sinful lives for His righteous life as we make Jesus Lord of our lives waiting for Him to redeem our bodies and to live with Him for eternity.

7 Churches Summary: The Things which Are

Application: 7 Literal churches, Seven Church Ages, Present Church/Believers

Church Age Theory: *Secondary* in literal interpretation to the fact that Jesus is walking among all Seven Churches; i.e. **His message is to All churches in All church ages**...some churches more than others...some ages more than others Every church/believer has a measure of Laodicea and the other six churches.

"...let him hear what the Spirit says to the **churches.**"

Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and **in the midst of the seven lampstands** One like the Son of Man [Rev. 1:12]

Seven churches received all Seven letters AND the complete Book of

Revelation; it is for us all!

Application of the Seven letters is to the very end of the church age: e.g. Imminent ["about to happen"] return of Christ mentioned in Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea
[Chapter 3 containing 3 of the 4]

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Peter+4:17&version=NKJV>" 1 Peter 4:17 ...the time has come for judgment to **begin at the house of God**; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Aerial View: Revelation Chapters 1-3

Chapter 1: Jesus Revealed as Judge; the Person of Jesus Christ

Chapter 2 Church on Earth; the Possession of Jesus Christ

- I. Ephesus: Loveless Legalistic Church**
- II. Smyrna: Persecuted Church**
- III. Pergamos: Compromising Church**
- IV. Thyatira: Corrupt Church**

Revelation 3: Church on Earth Continued

V. Sardis: Dead Church

Watch: For Jesus return

Strengthen: What you have

Remember: God's Spirit and Power is available and He is willing

Hold Fast: God, His Word, Good Examples, your testimony.

Repent: Act quickly received Truth from God

VI. Philadelphia: Faithful Church

Kept His Word

Did not deny His Name

Kept from the Great Tribulation

Name of God, Name of God's City and New Name for Jesus revealed/written on us i.e. Pillars in His Temple

VII. Laodicea: Lukewarm Church

Cowards

Be zealous for truth and repent revealed wrongs

"It is what we DO with the Word we hear that Matters"

Addendum

Revelation Chapter 3:1-13 Sardis the Dead Church and Philadelphia the Faithful Church

Of Interest:

Revelation: Unveiling

Over 800 allusions to the Old Testament in Revelation

Jesus/Paul wrote seven epistles to the churches [Ephesus common]

Churches in John's day, personal application, and church ages;

Last 4 churches seem to co-exist in our day:

Thyatira: Corrupt Roman Catholic, Allow Jezebel to usurp; i.e. unannointed/unappointed teaching of false doctrine

Sardis: Dead church, WORD but no HS power; end of Reformation

Philadelphia: Faithful

Laodicean: Lukewarm

I. Sardis [Cont.]: Prescription from the Great Physician for Spiritual Resurrection from Dead Works [Church/Individual]

Revelation 3:1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. ² Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. ³ Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent.

Sardis Stone: Once Valuable now common: You have a name but you are useless

Watch: For Jesus: Purity! Works of this church were dead!

Titus 2:12 ...we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and **glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and **purify** for

Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has **this hope in Him purifies himself**, just as He is pure.

Luke 21:28 ...when these things begin to happen [Great Tribulation], look up and lift up your heads, because your **redemption draws near.**"

Also watch for: the devil who prowls, Temptation, False Teaching

Strengthen: What you have; i.e. what you know to be true about Jesus:

Justification by Faith Alone

Inherency of Scripture

Depravity of Man

Sufficiency of the Blood of Jesus

Jesus the Same yesterday, today and forever [Heb. 13:8]

Remember: God's Spirit and Power: Dynamite: Word empowered by God's Spirit to do works that are Spirit led and Eternal

Hold Fast: God, His Word, Good Examples, Our testimony... yesterday and today

Repent

4. Watch, Strengthen, Remember and **Hold Fast**

Hold Fast to **God the Father: Prescription for Spiritual Life**

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Joshua+22:5&version=NKJV>" **Joshua 22:5** ...take careful heed to do the commandment and the law which Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways, to keep His commandments, to **hold fast to Him**, and to serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul."

Hold Fast to **God the Son: Prescription for Spiritual Life**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2:19&version=NKJV" [Colossians 2:19](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Colossians+2:19&version=NKJV) [Hold] **fast to the Head**, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

Vine and Branches: You can do nothing apart from Christ w/ regard to good works

Hold Fast to **God's Word: Prescription for Spiritual Life**

1 Corinthians 15:1 ...the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, 2 by which also you are saved, if you **hold fast that word which I preached** to you [i.e. Gospel] unless you believed in vain.

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 **holding fast the word of life**

Morning devotion, Afternoon meditation, Nighttime infiltration

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:21&version=NKJV" [1 Thessalonians 5:21](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:21&version=NKJV)
Test all things; **hold fast what is good**.

Hold Fast to **Godly Examples: Prescription for Spiritual Life**

Hebrews 13:7 Remember your leaders who spoke the Word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith [as contrasted to "where are they now"]

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+1:13&version=NKJV" [2 Timothy 1:13](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+1:13&version=NKJV) **Hold fast the pattern of sound words** which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+3:10&version=NKJV" [2 Timothy 3:10](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Timothy+3:10&version=NKJV) ...you have

carefully **followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance...**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3:17&version=NKJV" [Philippians 3:17](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+3:17&version=NKJV) ...join in following my example, and **note those who so walk**, as you have us for a pattern.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Thessalonians+3:7&version=NKJV" [2 Thessalonians 3:7](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2%20Thessalonians+3:7&version=NKJV) ... you yourselves know how you ought to **follow us**, for we were not disorderly among you...

*Hold Fast to your **Testimony**:*

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12:11&version=NIV" [Revelation 12:11](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+12:11&version=NIV) ... they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the **word of their testimony**, and they did not love their lives to the death.

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+4:14&version=NKJV" [Hebrews 4:14](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+4:14&version=NKJV) Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold fast our confession**

HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+10:23&version=NKJV" [Hebrews 10:23](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+10:23&version=NKJV) **Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful.

HOLDING FAST TO EACH OTHER: Daughter and Father

Jude 1:1 Jude, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, To those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and **preserved in Jesus Christ**

Philippians 3:12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

5. Watch Strengthen, Remember, Hold Fast and Repent: Prescription for Spiritual Life

Repent: Take the next off ramp, go over the freeway and head the opposite direction! For Sardis and Churches/Individual Spiritually Dead, this means to be:

Watching: Look up for your Redemption draws near

Strengthening: Cling to what you have left of your walk by...

Remembering: What you received when you heard God's Word; i.e. Salvation and Power from the Spirit and...

Holding Fast: God, His Word, Good Examples, your testimony.

Repent: Act quickly on received Truth from God

3b Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

If you will not watch...I will come upon you!; Historical sore spot for Sardis:

Regarded as Militarily Impregnable; 1000 foot sheer cliffs on 3 sides

549 BC. Median soldier scaled the walls as the guard slept; term "thief in the night" first used

218 BC. Cretan slipped over the wall as sentries were careless

Thief: Not a reference to the 2nd coming, but present coming in judgment

He will not come like a thief to true believers...just make-believers:

Thessalonians 5:2 ...you yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night... **4** But you, brethren, **are not in darkness**, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief.

1 John 2:28 And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming.

Watch: Taking an honest/ sober survey of where we are spiritually...
Acting on Received Truth

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+8:18&version=NKJV>" [Luke 8:18](#) Therefore take heed how **you** hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and

whoever does not **have**, even what he seems to **have** will be **taken from** him.”

⁴ You have a **few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments**; and they shall walk with Me in white, for **they are worthy**.

Not Defiled: i.e. not “Touching death” with dead works; i.e. “filthy rags”. Wrong motives, wrong heart, for personal gain etc. Contrast with “dead Works”

Everything we do is for our neighbors to see: No reward!

Pharisees: Whitewashed tombs/Clean cups with dead bones inside

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+64:6&version=NKJV>" [Isaiah 64:6](#) ...we are all like an unclean thing, And **all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Compared with **“garments of Salvation”**

Isaiah 61:10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, My soul shall be joyful 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 with ornaments, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Revelation 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen **is the righteous acts of the saints**.

NOTE: These garments [righteousness] are given by the Father to the Bride [us]; the groom [Jesus] sees the Bride as perfect though practically her works are flawed:

Revelation 3:2...I have not found your works perfect before God...

Matthew 22:10 ...those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 “But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. 12 So he said to him,

'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?'
And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' 14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

Concluding Remarks

5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in **white garments**, and I will not **blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Overcomes: Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? **[1 John 5:5]**

White Garments: Righteous acts of the saints [Rev. 19:8]

All who overcome are written in the Book of Life and exemplified by confessing Jesus to the world and Jesus confessing him/her to the Father

BLOTTED OUT OF THE BOOK OF LIFE?

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20John+2:2&version=NKJV>" **1 John 2:2** And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only **but also for the whole world.**

Every soul ever conceived in the womb is a name written in the **Book of Life**

If Christ is received before physical death...the name stays
If Christ is rejected before physical death...name is blotted out; i.e. lake of fire

NOTE: God knew in His foreknowledge

Luke 12:10 "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who **blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven.**

6 "He who **has an ear, let him hear** what the Spirit says to the churches."

Do we have an ear...hear what God is saying and do it! Act on received

truth

Refusing to act leaves a person paralyzed, exactly where he was previously. But once he acts, he is never the same. It is the apparent folly of the truth that stands in the way of hundreds who have been convicted by the Spirit of God. Once I press myself into action, I immediately begin to live. Anything less is merely existing. The moments I truly live are the moments when I act with my entire will. **Oswald Chambers**

"It's not who you are underneath...It's what you do that defines you!" [Batman Begins]

Sardis Application: Three groups of people:

Unsaved: Dead spiritually; must receive the Spirit which gives Life
Saved and filled with power to overcome: Persevere and Hold Tight
Saved but powerless: This group is called to repent; i.e. be alert as to the imminent coming of Jesus Christ, strengthen what little you have by remembering the Word you heard and receiving the Promise of the Spirit which brings power unto good works. Jesus is with you!

Philadelphia: The Faithful Church [Missionary Age] *****
Church Age: 1800-Rapture

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with **brotherly love** [Philadelphia], in honor giving preference to one another..

Revelation Chapter 3: Salutation

⁷ "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is **holy, He who is true, "He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens"**':

He Who is Holy: Jesus Character Separated from Sin

He Who is True: Jesus Character Jesus and His Word: Can be trusted.

He Who Holds the Key of David: Millennial Kingdom

He Who Opens/Closes Doors: Salutation Continued: Ministry/Reward

⁸ "I know your **works**. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a **little strength**, have **kept My word**, and have **not denied My name**."

Little strength: I.e. wholly dependent on the Lord; humble unlike Sardis who "had a name" but were dead; these guys *do not* have a name but are ALIVE! They read God's Word and Kept God's Word:

Kept My Word: Word Keepers and did not compromise as others; sinful man and the devil have always tried to:

Repudiate [try to disprove] God's Eternal Word

Dilute God's Eternal Word

Allegorize i.e. Spiritualize everything, as opposed to literal interpretation

Ignore God's Eternal Word to their own demise

Did not deny My Name: Do you go to church is not the gospel

Did not deny Jesus Name leading to an open door of ministry:

Open Door: Witnessing/ Eternal Reward

See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it

1 Corinthians 16:9 For a great and effective door has opened to me, and there are many adversaries. [Missions]

Open door to Eternal Reward

Revelation 4:1 After these things [church age] I looked, and behold, a **door standing open** in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."

⁹ Indeed I will **make those of the synagogue of Satan**, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed **I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.**

Synagogue of Satan: Make-believers who would come against Philadelphia as they sought to “keep Jesus’ Word” trying to force them to “deny His Name”; legalists who sought a priesthood and rituals; **Common experience** for the 2 faithful churches; i.e. Smyrna and Philadelphia

Alternate view: Replacement Theology: Promises to Israel now on given to the church, no literal millennium...anti-Semitism

Worship at your feet; not worship of believers in Philadelphia, but Jesus:

Revelation 22:8 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. ⁹ Then he said to me, **“See that you do not do that.** For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. **Worship God.”**

Philippians 2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Make-believers who seek self-worship will now know Jesus love for true believers:

Psalms 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;** You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Psalm 18:39 For You have armed me with strength for the battle; You have **subdued under me those who rose up against me.**

¹⁰ Because you have **kept My command to persevere** [the Word of My patience KJV], I also will **keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world**, to test those who dwell on the earth.

Seven Points of Commendation from Jesus to Philadelphia:

You work and it passes Jesus test [c.f. Laodicea]

You have an open door...for ministry and eternal reward

You have a little strength...and you use it

You kept My Word...while others did not

You did not deny My Name...even when persecuted

Your enemies will know My love for you...validated/vindicated

You have kept my Word in patience; i.e. waiting for the Rapture

Tribulation in Smyrna was caused by Satan to believers; the Great Tribulation is brought about by God and unleashed on sinful man.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+2:5&version=NKJV>"

Romans 2:5 But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are **treasuring up for yourself wrath** in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God...

Philadelphia **KNEW** and **OBEYED** the command to persevere; They were **true believers** and will be kept from the Great Tribulation

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14:15&version=NASB>"

John 14:15 "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+14:21&version=NASB>"

John 14:21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them is the

one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him."

True believers and will be kept from the Great Tribulation

1 Thessalonians 1:9 ...you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

HYPERLINK "[http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:9&version=NKJV)

[search=1%20Thessalonians+5:9&version=NKJV](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Thessalonians+5:9&version=NKJV)" **1 Thessalonians 5:9** For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ...

1 Thessalonians 4:13 ...I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, **that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord** will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore **comfort one another with these words.**

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 **looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ**, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. 15 **Speak these things**, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

ALL of the wrath of God due us was poured out on His Son

Those who do not accept Christ's substitutionary death will know the full extent of God's wrath exacted during the "Wrath of the Lamb" and

upon sinful man

One Post-Tribulationist argument: There is no reason why Christians in the last generation deserve to escape the Great Tribulation

Pre-Tribulationist response: Christians in ALL other previous generations have escaped the Great Tribulation, why should the last generation be singled out

FACT: No one deserved to escape!

Concluding Remarks

¹¹ Behold, **I am coming quickly! Hold fast** what you have, that no one may take your crown.

I am coming quickly... Hold fast that no one may take your crown: Implication; a crown can be taken. HANG ON TIGHT!

Revelation 22:12 "And behold, **I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me**, to give to every one according to his work.

¹² He who overcomes, I will make him a **pillar in the temple of My God**, and he shall go out no more. 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 out of heaven from My God. And **I will write on him My new name.**

Make him a **Pillar in the temple of My God: Beauty, Stability and Strength**

Not our present in-process "Spiritual Temple"; i.e. the church and members:

Ephesians 2:19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief

cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, **being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord**, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:5 ...you also, as **living stones, are being built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

Now those who overcome are “pillars” in the **Temple that is the Father and Son in the New Jerusalem:**

Revelation 21:22 ...I saw **no temple in [the Millennial City]**, for the **Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.**

To those who overcome [are Mine] I will place three marks of identification:

Name of My God: Redeemer [to be brought/bought me into “right” standing]

Name of My City: Heavenly Citizenship

Hebrews 11:8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to the place which he would receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. 9 By faith he dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country, dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise; 10 for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

New name of Jesus i.e. **His new Name:** [see appendix A]

Jesus new Name: More knowledge/understanding of Who He is

Jesus new name/our new name given to us by Jesus [Rev 2:17] show us Jesus regard for individuality and his love for us as individuals with differing characteristics

New names reflect Philadelphia’s historical name changes

13 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

...are you not carnal and behaving like mere men? [[HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians+3:3&version=NKJV"](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Corinthians+3:3&version=NKJV) [1 Corinthians 3:3](#)]

Philadelphia Application: in spite of opposition and with just a little strength, we have the ability by and through God's Holy Spirit to "keep His Word" and "Not Deny His Name" in our daily lives. As we obey, God will show us open doors, those "good works prepared beforehand for us to walk in..." [Eph.2]

The eternal rewards for persevering are indescribable; Overcomers will be "pillars" in God's Temple; pillars on which are inscribed the Name of the Father, a New Name for the Son and the name of His Eternal City. Our fellowship with God and our citizenship and co-inheritance with Jesus are our eternal reward:

"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore" [[HYPERLINK "http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+16:11&version=NKJV"](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+16:11&version=NKJV) [Psalm 16:11](#)]

ADDENDUM

Revelation 3:14-22: The Lukewarm Church Continued

Laodicea: The Lukewarm Church *Cowards*

Church Age: 1800 A.D. into the Great Tribulation

History:

Laodicea means "justice of the people" and a popular woman's name

Many towns had the same name; this one 45 miles SE of Philadelphia

Famous for a Medical School known for making/exporting eye

medication

Outwardly the most impressive of the seven churches, but least impressive in Jesus eyes

Sparse water supply, water was imported to Laodicea

Place of great wealth, Greek culture, science and literature w/ extensive banking operations; church members shared in that wealth!

Zeus (Jupiter) worshiped; Finally abandoned due to earthquakes; remains of two Roman theaters, a stadium and three early Christian churches

Some "members" **will go into the Great Tribulation** unlike Philadelphia which will be Raptured; both exist simultaneously

LAST WEEK:

Lukewarm: Impotent, Diverse, Tolerant w/ Social Gospel ...

Cowardly: i.e. pseudo-tolerance now somehow honorable; standing for nothing and falling for anything

But the cowardly...shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.

[HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+21:8&version=NKJV>" [Revelation 21:8](#)]

Jesus can reach Hot/Cold but not Lukewarm as Jimmy Carter:

Theory of evolution

Salutation

Jesus our Creator

¹⁴ "And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the **Beginning of the creation of God:**

"What Jesus says to His creation, about His creation, and for His creation is faithful and true... Amen!"

¹⁵ "I know your works, that you are **neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.** ¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, **I will vomit you out of My mouth.**

Growing, Prosperous, Impressive w/regard to facilities but also...

Neutral on controversial but important issues of the day, **People pleasers not God pleasers**

Jesus can work with Hot/Cold...they are **teachable**

COLD: Refreshing/Real, sometimes harsh, but Teachable

Cold:

Martin Luther: I hate God leading to Salvation

Atheists

Satanists

Not the Religious

HOT: Medical Purposes i.e. healing. Loving God/Man

In all the Way; SOLID like a 4x4: Loving others as self..

Romans 12:9 Let love be **without hypocrisy**. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. 10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; 11 not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; 12 rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; 13 distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.

Loving [fearing]God; not people-pleasers

Acts 5:28 [The religious leaders said] "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" ²⁹ But Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said: "**We ought to obey God rather than men.**"

LUKEWARM: Half-Heated-Half /Hearted People pleasers/ Cowards/Deceived but Content i.e. Un-teachable and Unreachable...almost

Not offending man but offending God: theory of evolution [pseudo intellectualism], homosexuality, abortion, fornication, etc.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+29:25&version=NKJV>" [Proverbs 29:25](#) The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

Impotent "gospel"

2 Timothy 3:5... having a form of godliness but denying its power.

And from such people turn away!

"Vomit you out of My mouth" lit. " I am about to..." i.e. short time to repent

Lukewarm: greater hindrance to the cause of Christ than if "dead" i.e. Sardis

It's interesting that God looks at apostasy and gets angry-but he looks at indifference and gets ill. [Jeremiah, Escape the Coming Night]

Diagnosis: Self-Deceived

The deceived do not know they are **deceived**; "...but I feel fine"
Wealthy physically, Wretched spiritually

17 Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

Laodicea [Lukewarm] says they are:

Rich

Have become wealthy

Need nothing and having exuding "Spiritual Pride" UGLY

1 Corinthians 1:26 ...you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, *are called.* ²⁷ But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and **God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;** ²⁸ and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, ²⁹ that no flesh should glory in His presence. ³⁰ But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— ³¹ that, as it is written, **"He who glories, let him glory in the LORD**

Jesus [Creator/Designer] says they are:

Wretched, Miserable, Poor, Blind, Naked

Conservative, Evangelical, Charismatic, Fundamentalist; many w/big church buildings, many programs, impressed with self ["I have... become wealthy"]

Denying/Cowering from:

True Creationism i.e. Six literal creation days, Adam and Eve, etc

Complete Biblical Inerrancy i.e. No "Pauline" letter nonsense

Complete Biblical Authority i.e. The final Word

Speaking of those who take the Bible literally Jimmy Carter mocks God's Word and His authority: Jimmy Carter said..." they quote a few carefully selected Bible verses and claiming that Eve was created second to Adam and was responsible for original sin, ordained that women must be "subservient" to their husbands and prohibited from serving as deacons, pastors or chaplains in the military service.

1 Timothy 2:11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.¹² And I do not permit **a woman to teach or to have authority over a man**, but to be in silence. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

"Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil." C.S. Lewis

Counselor's Prescription

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called **Wonderful, Counselor**, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Our Creator is our **Counselor**

¹⁸ **I counsel you** to buy from Me **gold refined** in the fire, that you may be **rich**; and **white garments**, that you may be **clothed**, *that* the shame of your **nakedness** may not be revealed; and **anoint your eyes** with **eye salve**, **that you may see.**

Paraphrase: What you have I did not give to you...it is fleshly

Poor/ False Riches=Works of the flesh that will be burn
True Riches [Gold]=works that will not burn [Spirit led]

Nakedness =Humiliation; i.e. false motives revealed

Clothed [White Garments]= His righteousness working through us

Isaiah 64:6 But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like **filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our

iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+19:8&version=NKJV>" **Revelation 19:8** ...to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.

Blindness=Deception

Mark 4:18 Now these are the ones sown among thorns; they are the ones who hear the word, and the cares of this world, the **deceitfulness of riches**, and the desires for other things entering in choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.

True Sight [Eye Salve]... Right priorities, treasure in heaven, seek first God, Glory to God not self; Laodicea exported an eye salve leading to pride and riches...and blindness

Ephesians 1:17 ...the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and **revelation in the knowledge of Him...**

Sons and Daughters of God

¹⁹ As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

Jesus give the Lukewarm Laodicea a chance to head His voice; i.e. Repent

God loves His kids by:

Rebuking

Chastisement

Proverbs 3:11 My son, **do not despise the chastening of the LORD**, Nor detest His correction; 12 For whom the LORD loves He corrects, Just as a father the son in whom he delights.

Two responses to God's Discipline:

Get Better: What doesn't kill me makes me stronger

Get Bitter

Hebrews 12:5 [Read]..." My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; 6 For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."

Don't despise or be discouraged, if you are loved by God you will be trained by Him

Discipline: Disciple/ Follower

7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

Earthly fathers corrected us "as it seemed best" but God's training is ALWAYS for our good

11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. 12 **Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down,** and the feeble knees, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that **what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.** 14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any **root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled;** 16 lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright. 17 For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

Jesus commands the lukewarm to:

Zealousness

Repentance

Zealous to seek God's Word/Will and **Repent** of those things in our life that do not line up with both

Defile Many: Social Gospel; a god of our own making for our own purposes:

"...our individual salvation depends on collective salvation. Because thinking only about yourself, fulfilling your immediate wants and needs, betrays a poverty of ambition. Because it's only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential and discover the role you'll play in writing the next great chapter in America's story ..." [BO]

Concluding Remarks

²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If **anyone hears** My voice and **opens** the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

"If anyone..." Individual lukewarm individuals in the church, not corporate church

Hears

Opens

Jesus will:

Come into him/ those who open their hearts

Dine with him

Revelation 19:9 Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed *are* those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'" And he said to me, "These are the true sayings of God."

Jesus knocking on the door of His own church

Gracious Jesus: We are the needy ones and should be knocking on His door!

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10:45&version=NKJV>" **Mark 10:45** For even the Son of Man **did not come to be served, but to serve**, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Isaiah 25:6 And in this mountain **The LORD of hosts will make for all people A feast of choice pieces**, A feast of wines on the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of well-refined wines on the lees. 7 And He will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the veil that is spread over all nations. 8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces...

Luke 12:35 "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; 36 and

you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately. 37 Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching. Assuredly, I say to you that **he will gird himself and have them sit down to eat, and will come and serve them.** 38 And if he should come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants. 39 **But know this**, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. 40 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” [Thief in the night]

Overcomers and the Age to Come:

Ephesus

Revelation 2:7 To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the **tree of life**, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”

Revelation 22:2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the **tree of life**, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

Smyrna

Revelation 2:11 He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the **second death**.”

Revelation 20:6 Blessed and holy *is* he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the **second death has no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

Pergamos

Revelation 2:17 And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a **new name** written which no one knows except him who receives *it*.”

Revelation 22:4 They shall see His face, and **His name shall be on their foreheads**.

Thyatira

Revelation 2:28 ...and I will give him the morning star.

Revelation 22:16 “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and **Morning Star**.”

Sardis

Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in **white garments**

Revelation 19:8 And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the **fine linen** is the righteous acts of the saints.

Philadelphia

Revelation 3:12 He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. 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 out of heaven from My God

Revelation 22:2 In the middle of **its street** [New Jerusalem], and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

Laodicea

²¹ To him who **overcomes** I will grant to **sit with Me on My throne**, as I also overcame and sat down **with My Father on His throne**.

Overcomers will sit with Jesus on His throne!; those previous to repenting were about to be "spewed out of His mouth"! From lukewarm to leading!

Luke 19:16 Then came the first, saying, 'Master, your mina has earned ten minas.' 17 And he said to him, 'Well done, good servant; because you were faithful in a very little, have **authority over ten cities**.'

2 Timothy 2:12 If we endure, **We shall also reign with Him**.

2 Thrones of Jesus

Millennial Throne: The Throne of **David**

Revelation 20:4 And **I saw thrones**, and they [Tribulation Saints who heeded Jesus council to repent AFTER the Tribulation begins, did not receive the mark...Laodicea] sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they **lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years**.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Luke+1:32&version=NKJV>" **Luke 1:32** He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the **throne of His father David**.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+9:7&version=NKJV>" **Isaiah 9:7** Of the increase of His

government and peace There will be no end, Upon the **throne of David** and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Isaiah+16:5&version=NKJV>" **Isaiah 16:5** In mercy the **throne** will be established; And One will sit on it in truth, in the **tabernacle of David**, Judging and seeking justice and hastening righteousness."

Eternal Throne: The Throne of the **Father** and **Son**

1 Corinthians 15:21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 But each one in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits**, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

Revelation 7:15 Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. 16 They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; 17 for the **Lamb who is in the midst of the throne** will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 22:3 And there shall be no more curse, **but the throne of God and of the Lamb** shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him... **forever and ever.**

22 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.""

Last mention of the church until:

Revelation 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David,

the Bright and Morning Star.”

Laodicea Application: Denying our Creator and His Word leads to compromise and self-deception i.e. un-teachable, content/hell-bound. The social gospel can no more save its hearers than its proponents. Jesus is “sickened” as he sees those he loves deceiving and being deceived by a lukewarm cowardly make-believe version of His Eternal Truth. We are to be:

Zealous as we seek Truth from God’s Word

Repent when our lives are out of line with God’s revealed Truth

True Gospel: Jesus is God Who came to this earth and was manifested in the flesh. He died a substitutionary, voluntary death in our place as the wrath we deserved on account of our sin was poured out by God the Father on His perfect Son Jesus. We are to repent and exchange our sinful lives for His righteous life as we make Jesus Lord of our lives waiting for Him to redeem our bodies and to live with Him for eternity.

7 Churches Summary: The Things which Are

Application: 7 Literal churches, Seven Church Ages, Present Church/Believers

Church Age Theory: *Secondary* in literal interpretation to the fact that Jesus is walking among all Seven Churches; i.e. **His message is to All churches in All church ages**...some churches more than others...some ages more than others Every church/believer has a measure of Laodicea and the other six churches.

“...let him hear what the Spirit says to the **churches.**”

Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, and ***in the midst of the seven lampstands*** One like the Son of Man [Rev. 1:12]

Seven churches received all Seven letters AND the complete Book of Revelation; it is for us all!

Application of the Seven letters is to the very end of the church age: e.g. **Imminent** [“about to happen”] **return of Christ mentioned in Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea** [Chapter 3 containing 3 of the 4]

HYPERLINK "<http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%20Peter+4:17&version=NKJV>" [1 Peter 4:17](#) ...the time has come for judgment to **begin at the house of God**; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Aerial View: Revelation Chapters 1-3

Chapter 1: Jesus Revealed as Judge; the Person of Jesus Christ **Chapter 2 and 3: Church on Earth**

“It is what we DO with the Word we hear that Matters”

I. Ephesus: Loveless Legalistic Church: Backsliding into legalism; Hated deeds of Nicolaitans i.e. False Apostles, Remedy for Intimacy with our First Love, Remember what God did for us, Repent from legalism, turn to love [God and others] , Repeat the deeds we did when we fell in love with Jesus

II. Smyrna: Persecuted Church: Poor and Persecuted but Rich and Successful in Jesus Eyes, Synagogue of Satan: False Jews; No Rebuke, encouragement to endure/attain reward; i.e. Crown of Life' Nicolaitans plus + Synagogue of Satan usher in Pergamos

III. Pergamos: Compromising Church: Holding to the false doctrine of Balaam [stumbling by introducing world], Nicolaitans [Laity/Clergy split]

IV. Thyatira: Corrupt Church: False teaching of Jezebel embraced, Infiltration with/of the world and world views

V. Sardis: Dead Church: Watch: For Jesus return, **Strengthen:** What you have, **Remember:** God's Spirit and Power is available and He is willing, **Hold Fast:** God, His Word, Good Examples, your testimony. **Repent:** Act quickly received Truth from God

VI. Philadelphia: Faithful Church: Kept His Word, **Did not deny** His Name, Kept from the Great Tribulation, Name of God, Name of God's City and New Name for Jesus revealed/written on us i.e. Pillars in His Temple

VII. Laodicea: Lukewarm Church: Cowards, Be zealous for truth and repent revealed wrongs

Rapture: Purifying for Saints

2nd Coming: Hope for the Jews

Denial of God's Word

[Appendix A]

Loving Father

Proper response to God's Loving Discipline

Listen and Act; it is what we do with the Word that counts

Intimacy

Rapture: Purifying for Saints

2nd Coming: Hope for the Jews

Denial of God's Word

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Intimacy