Revelation – The Time is Near

JESUS SHAKES UP THE CHURCH

Jesus Addresses Seven Churches in Revelation Chapters Two and Three "I know your deeds!"

Ephesians 2:4-10

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. ⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus,

John 14:12

¹² Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and **they will do even greater things** than these, because I am going to the Father.

Romans 2:6-7 A Prophetic Warning

⁶ God "will repay each person according to what they have done." ⁷ To those who by persistence in doing good seek glory, honor and immortality, he will give eternal life. ⁸ But for those who are self-seeking and who reject the truth and follow evil, there will be wrath and anger.

The letters to the seven churches declare Jesus wants believers to bloom where they are planted and bear good fruit that will last for eternity!

Revelation 2:1-7	EPHESUS – Spiritually Sound but Lacking in Love
Revelation 2:8-11	SMYRNA – Spiritually Vibrant while facing Persecution
Revelation 2:12-17	PERGAMUM – Spiritually Faithful but Drifting into Sin
Revelation 2:18-29	THYATIRA – Spiritually Active but Tolerating False Teaching
Revelation 3:1-6	SARDIS – Spiritually Dead but Thinks It's Alive
Revelation 3:7-13	PHILADELPHIA – Spiritually Strong and Destined for Glory
Revelation 3:14-22	LAODECIA – Spiritually Lukewarm needing to Open the Door

Revelation 2:1-7 EPHESUS – Spiritually Sound but Lacking in Love

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands.

⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.

¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

JESUS SHAKES UP THE CHURCH!

⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. ⁵ Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:8-11 SMYRNA – Spiritually Vibrant while facing Persecution

⁸ "To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.

⁹ I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days.

Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. ¹¹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.

Revelation 2:12-17 PERGAMUM – Spiritually Faithful but Drifting into Sin

¹² "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.

¹³ I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

¹⁴ Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they are food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality.

¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

¹⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.