

Sermon Notes

Big Idea: The Church is the point. God rules in relation to His people, as the Church is the centerpiece of what God is doing in our world. In these pivotal times, it is imperative that God's People understand what Jesus is saying, and relentlessly pursue a life of joyful obedience. Dear Church, Jesus is speaking.

Genesis 11:1-4 [ESV]

Revelation 3:1-6 [ESV]

THREE SIGNS OF SPIRITUAL DECAY:

1. Your faith has become **ROUTINE** instead of joyful.
2. You're more concerned about your **REPUTATION** with people than your **RELATIONSHIP** with God.
3. You're numb to the mission of **RESCUING** people who don't know Jesus.

We can't allow our desire for **COMFORT** to overpower our passion for the **MISSION**.

THE CURE FOR SPIRITUAL DECAY:

1. **REMEMBER.**
2. **RETAIN.**
3. **REPENT.**

God is looking for a **GENUINE** relationship with Him, not the **REPUTATION** of one.

Discussion Questions

1. What impacted you the most from this week's message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
2. Read Revelation 3:1. Why is the reference to their "reputation" significant to Sardis? There is no mention of any persecution of this church. Why would that be and what would that mean for us today?
3. Revelation 3:2 says, "their works have been found incomplete in the sight of God." What cultural allusion is being made here and what was Jesus implying? In what ways could today's church be guilty of the same thing?
4. How has the abundance and ease of living we enjoy in our culture led to some unhealthy attitudes about spiritual life and growth? Should we expect spiritual maturity to be a painless and carefree process?
5. Is the idea of commitment and sacrifice understood as a necessary part of being a disciple, or do we come to God on our own terms?
6. What are the things that are descriptive of an alive church? How do we reverse the trend of complacency in the church?