CROSS (1) OCTOBER 15-16, 2022 HOMECOMING PART 4: IT'S NOT ALWAYS WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

REVELATION 3:1-6 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. "'I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

THREE THINGS CONTRIBUTING TO SARDIS'S DIAGNOSIS:

- 1. Relying on past successes.
- 2. Lived life on the surface.

THE WORK WE DO FOR GOD IS NEVER A SUBSTITUTE FOR OUR DEVOTIONAL LIFE.

3. They were satisfied with aimless activity.

FOUR THINGS JESUS TELLS SARDIS TO DO IN LIGHT OF THEIR DIAGNOSIS:

- 1. Wake up.
- 2. Strengthen what is weak.
- 3. Remember.
- 4. Repent.

REVELATION 3:7-8 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. "I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. **REVELATION 3:9-13** Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and 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 from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

JESUS GIVES THE CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA:

1. A word of praise.

2. A word of prospect.

WHAT DOORS HAS GOD OPENED IN MY LIFE THAT I'M FAILING TO WALK THROUGH?

3. A word of promise.

What is the Holy Spirit speaking to me today, and how can I apply it?

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