



**ARE WE IN THE  
LAST DAYS**

# REVELATIONS

- According to Rev 1:3 blessed are those who *read the book, hear the words of the prophecy and keeps (do) the words written.*
- To receive the blessings of Revelation we are to:
- Read the book
- Understand that it is a prophetic book- meaning that it is history written beforehand and so it is history unfolding before us. Some things have occurred others we are waiting to occur.
- We are to follow or do the things it tells us. (Rev. 1:3, 2:26, 3:8, 10, 12:17, 14:12, 22:9)

# APPROACH TO REVELATIONS

- Understand that it is prophetic
- It uses imagery, allusions, literal language, uses visions to describe what has happened and what will happen
- Approach to understanding using good criteria-  
use all available material but not go beyond what is revealed or known. Speculate on what could be or appears to be happening and use the Bible as reference

# PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

- Rev: 1:19 *“Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are and the things which are to come.”*
- 1. He saw the vision of Christ- *past*
- 2. The thing which are concerning the churches- *present*
- 3. The things which shall be hereafter- *future*
- Rev. 4:1- *“a door was opened in heaven, Jesus told John to come and see the things which must come.”*

# CHIEF THEME OF REVELATIONS

- Rev. 1:7 *“Behold he cometh with Clouds and every eye shall see him and they also which pierced him and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.”*
- Revelations is about the Return of Christ and his victory over evil

# THINGS SEEN

- Vision of Christ
- 8 fold description- Body clothed with white and gold, Hair was white like wool and snow, eyes- flame of fire, feet- brass, voice- many waters, face- shined like the sun
- Told John to fear not (80 times in scripture), that he lives forever and has all authority.
- The seven stars are the seven angels (messengers) of the churches- believed to be the pastors and the seven candlesticks are the churches

# PRESENT

- Things concerning those churches and many interpret to all churches until the Rapture
- 3 fold application of the Letters
  - 1. Local Application
  - 2. Prophetic Application
  - 3. Individual Application
- Local application- letters portrayed actual events in 7 local churches in Turkey (Asia Minor)

# FUTURE

- Prophetic Application- Could apply to churches throughout the dispensation until the Rapture, revealing spiritual conditions in local churches and in individuals in churches.
- Individual Churches- So that all individuals may be warned and learn from the failures of these churches



# 7 CHURCHES

- Ephesus,
- Smyrna,
- Pergamos,
- Thyatira,
- Sardis,
- Philadelphia,
- Laodicea

# EPHESUS

- Pros- Works, Labor, Patience, not allowing evil in the church
- Cons- Lost first Love- return back to first works or candlestick will be removed- best interpretation – church would no longer exist
- As of Today the Christian church is almost non-existence. Modern Turkey is 98.5% Muslim

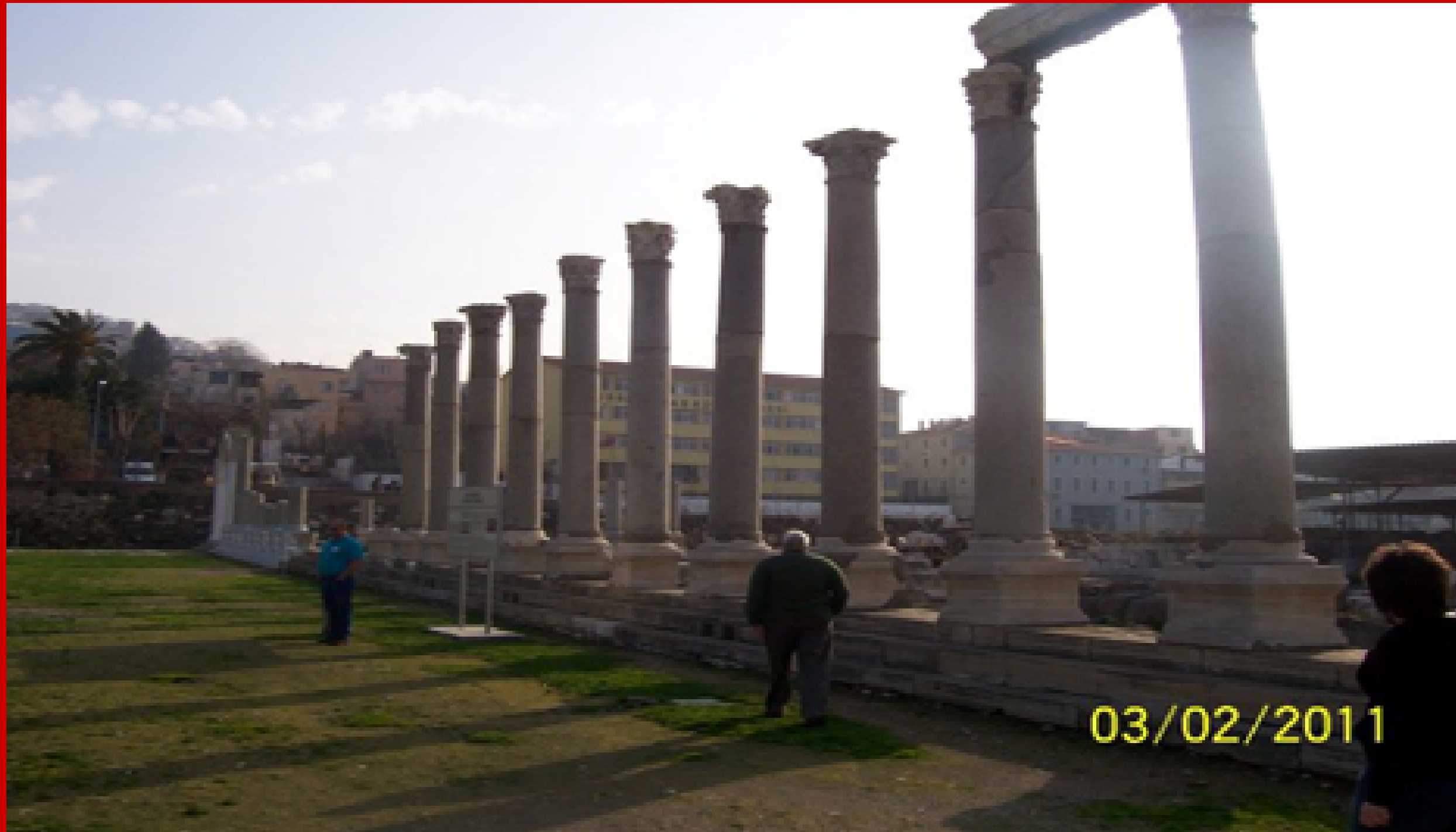
# RUINS AT EPHESUS



# SMYRNA

- Pros- Works, tribulations in poverty,
- Warned them about persecution
- Commended them to be faithful and fear not, even unto death

# RUINS AT SMYRNA



# PERGAMOS

- Pros- works, hold fast to his name, has not denied the faith even unto death
- Cons- False doctrines, eating things sacrificed to idols, committing fornication, holding the doctrines of the nicolaitaines

# RUINS AT PERGAMOS



# THYATIRA

- Know thy works- charity, service, faith, patience.
- Jesus had things against them- they suffered a woman named Jezebel- a false prophetess
- Told to hold fast and keep their works



# THYATIRA



# SARDIS

- Pros- works, kept his word, still a few faithful,
  - Have not denied Christ name
  - Cons- reputation of being alive but it is dead.
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- Encouraged to be watchful, strengthen themselves, make their works better

# RUINS AT SARDIS



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# PHILADELPHIA

- Jesus said I know your works
- I have set before you an open door that no man can shut
- Has kept his word and not denied his name
- Hold fast to what you have

# RUINS AT PHILADELPHIA



# LAODICEA

- I know your works- you are neither hot nor cold but lukewarm therefore I will spit you out
- You say you are rich and have plenty and need nothing but you are wretched, miserable and poor, blind and naked.
- Buy Gold tried by fire that you may be rich
- Buy new clothing
- Open your eyes with new eyesalve
- He will chasten and rebuke them therefore repent