

LESSON TWENTY—DEAD OR ALIVE?

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Revelation 3:1–6

OPEN IT:

What was your reputation among your peers when you were growing up? Was it accurate? Why or why not?

DIG INTO IT:

1. Read Revelation 3:1 and answer the following questions:

a) What, if anything, is the significance of the number seven?

b) What does Jesus mean by the descriptive word “dead”? Give some examples of what a “dead” church would look like.

2. Read Revelation 3:2–3 and answer the following questions:

a) What specifically must the church in Sardis do to regain the life they once possessed? Where should they begin?

b) What will happen to the church if they don’t do what Jesus says?

3. Read Revelation 3:4–6 and answer the following questions:

a) What do “white clothes” symbolize?

b) Which blessing in v. 5 do you look forward to the most and why?

c) What is the significance of Jesus acknowledging believer’s names?

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REFLECT ON IT:

1. Would you agree that many churches in our culture have a reputation for being alive but are in reality dead?
 - a. What specific factors contribute to this?
2. Would you say that our church is dead or alive?
3. Assuming our church has a reputation for being alive, what can be done to make sure that our reputation matches reality?
4. What can you do personally to make that happen?
5. What color will your robe be when Jesus returns? Why?
6. Is your name written in the book of life?
7. How can we pray for you today?

PRAY ABOUT IT:

“The supreme thing is worship. The attitude of worship is the attitude of a subject bent before the King ... the fundamental thought is that of prostration, of bowing down.” ~ Campbell Morgan

Barry L. Davis, *Instant Bible Studies for Small Groups* (Barry Davis, 2013).