

## OUTLINE & BLURB

### INTRO: REVELATION...

reclaim. recycle. renew. reuse. recreate. renovate

James Heyward • SFCC • 08.01.21

Message #6: Start At Home— SARDIS part 6 of 8

SFCC informal, non-scientific, non-binding poll.

**SARDIS- WHAT JESUS SAYS TO A DYING CHURCH...DON'T GIVE UP... WAKE UP!**

*Write this to Sardis, to the Angel of the church. The One holding the Seven Spirits of God in one hand, a firm grip on the Seven Stars with the other, speaks: "I see right through your work. You have a reputation for vigor and zest, but you're dead, stone-dead. "Up on your feet! Take a deep breath! Maybe there's life in you yet. But I wouldn't know it by looking at your busywork; nothing of God's work has been completed. Your condition is desperate. Think of the gift you once had in your hands, the Message you heard with your ears—grasp it again and turn back to God. "If you pull the covers back over your head and sleep on, oblivious to God, I'll return when you least expect it, break into your life like a thief in the night. "You still have a few followers of Jesus in Sardis who haven't ruined themselves wallowing in the muck of the world's ways. They'll walk with me on parade! They've proved their worth! "Conquerors will march in the victory parade, their names indelible in the Book of Life. I'll lead them up and present them by name to my Father and his Angels. "Are your ears awake? Listen. Listen to the Wind Words, the Spirit blowing through the churches." Revelation 3:1-6 (MSG)*

**PRAYER #1: -LORD, SHOW ME THE BLIND SPOTS IN MY LIFE**

*"I see right through your work. You have a reputation for vigor and zest, but you're dead, stone dead." "You have a reputation for vigor and zest, "You're dead stone dead."*

**A COUPLE OTHER BLIND SPOTS WE ALL FACE BETWEEN REPUTATION AND REALITY.**

**A. The blind spot between- WHAT YOU SAY AND WHAT YOU DO.**

*"Many Christians are only "Christ-aholics" and not disciples at all. Disciples are cross-bearers; they seek Christ. Christ-aholics seek happiness. Disciples dare to discipline themselves, and the demands they place on themselves leave them enjoying the happiness of their growth. Christ-aholics are escapists looking for a shortcut to nirvana. Like drug addicts, they are trying to "bomb out" of their depressing world. There is no automatic joy. Christ is not a happiness capsule; He is the way to the Father. But the way to the Father is not a carnival ride in which we sit and do nothing while we are whisked through various spiritual sensations."*

**(CALVIN MILLER in The Taste of Joy. Christianity Today, Vol. 33, no. 17)**

**B. The blind spot between- ASPIRATIONS AND ACTUALITY**

**C. The blind spot between- WHERE WE ARE AND WHERE WE WERE.**

**D. The materialism blind spot. NOT NEEDING MONEY BUT NEEDING MORE THINGS.**

**E. The fear blind spot- THE FEAR OF TELLING THE TRUTH**

**F. Pride blind spot.**

**G. Lying blind spot.**

**H. Forgiveness blind spot.**

**I. The image blind spot.**

**PRAYER# 2: -LORD, HELP ME TO GET RID OF THE BLIND SPOTS.**

*"Up on your feet! Take a deep breath! Maybe there's life in you yet...Think of the gift you once had in your hands, the Message you heard with your ears—grasp it again and turn back to God. "If you pull the covers back over your head and sleep on, oblivious to God, I'll return when you least expect it, break into your life like a thief in the night. " Revelation 3:2-3 (MSG)*

**A) "Up on your feet--Wake up."**

The Weakest Link:

The Strongest Place:

**B) "Take a deep breath! Maybe there's life in you yet"**

**C) Think of the gift you once had in your hands, the Message you heard with your ears**

**D) Turn Back to God**

**PRAYER #3: -LORD, I WILL CONQUER.**

*They'll walk with me on parade! They've proved their worth! "Conquerors will march in the victory parade, their names indelible in the Book of Life. I'll lead them up and present them by name to my Father and his Angels. "Are your ears awake? Listen. Listen to the Wind Words, the Spirit blowing through the churches." Revelation 3:4-6 (The Message)*

Jesus says, *"They'll walk with me on parade! They've proved their worth! "Conquerors will march in the victory parade."*

*"Your name is no longer Jacob. From now on it's Israel (God-Wrestler); you've wrestled with God and you've come through. Genesis 32:28 (MSG)*

*This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out. Matthew 16:18 (MSG)*

*Revelation 2:7 I'm about to call each conqueror to dinner. I'm spreading a banquet of Tree-of-Life fruit, a supper plucked from God's orchard."*

*Revelation 2:11 "Christ-conquerors are safe from Devil-death."*

*Revelation 2:26 "Here's the reward I have for every conqueror, everyone who keeps at it, refusing to give up: You'll rule the nations, your Shepherd-King rule as firm as an iron staff He who overcomes and does My will to the end I will give authority over the nations."*

*Revelation 2:17 "I'll give the sacred manna to every conqueror;"*

*Revelation 3:12 I'll make each conqueror a pillar in the sanctuary of my God, a permanent position of honor.*

*Revelation 3:21 Conquerors will sit alongside me at the head table, just as I, having conquered, took the place of honor at the side of my Father. That's my gift to the conquerors!*

*Every God-begotten person conquers the world's ways. The conquering power that brings the world to its knees is our faith. The person who wins out over the world's ways is simply the one who believes Jesus is the Son of God. 1 John 5:4-5 (MSG)*