

## Church EnLIGHTened - Sardis

August 7-8, 2021

**Revelation 3:1 (NIV)** – “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: “These are the words of Him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead”.

**Revelation 3:1 (MSG)** – “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 in the other, speaks: I see right through your work. You have a reputation for vigor and zest, but you’re dead, stone-dead”.

“**dead**” = Greek *nekros* – “lifeless, powerless, unresponsive to life-giving influences” (HELPS)

“A perfect model of inoffensive Christianity” – **G.B. Caird** on Sardis

**Acts 1:8 (NIV)** – “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”.

**2 Timothy 3:5 (NIV)** - “having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people”.

**Revelation 3:2-3 (NIV)** – “Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you”.

## Church EnLIGHTened - Sardis

August 7-8, 2021

“There is something wanting in them; there is the shell, but not the kernel; there is the carcass, but not the soul – the shadow, but not the substance. The inward thing is wanting, thy works are hollow and empty; prayers are not filled up with holy desires, alms-deeds not filled up with true charity, Sabbaths not filled up with suitable devotion of soul to God; there are not inward affections suitable to outward acts and expressions. Now when the spirit is wanting, the form cannot long subsist” – **Matthew Henry**

“Living, He loved me; Dying, He saved me; Buried, He carried my sins far away; Rising, He justified freely forever; One day He’s coming, oh glorious day!” – **Casting Crowns, *Glorious Day***

**1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)** – “And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe”.

**Matthew 24:42-44 (NIV)** – “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him”.

**Revelation 3:2-3 (MSG)** - “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”.

## **Church EnLIGHTened - Sardis**

**August 7-8, 2021**

“I must drop one word of caution, for next to cowardice and treachery, overconfidence leading to neglect and slothfulness, is the worst of wartime crimes” – **Winston Churchill**

**Revelation 3:4-6 (NIV)** – “Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and His angels. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches”.

**James 1:27 (NIV)** – “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world”.

**Revelation 3:4-6 (NIV)** – “Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and His angels. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches”.