

THE BOOK OF REVELATION



THIS GUIDE IS DESIGNED TO HELP YOU LISTEN ACTIVELY, REFLECT HONESTLY, AND PARTICIPATE MEANINGFULLY DURING OUR STUDY. THERE ARE NO TRICK QUESTIONS. THERE ARE ONLY INVITATIONS TO THINK, PRAY, AND ENGAGE.

INTRO THE LETTER FORMULA

- 1) HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT...
- 2) HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING WRONG...
- 3) HERE'S A PROMISE...

WHY 7?

THIS MESSAGE IS FOR ALL CHURCHES IN ALL LOCATIONS IN ALL AGES.

A GENRE WITHIN A GENRE

REVELATION IS BOTH APOCALYPTIC AND PROPHETIC. IT IS ALSO A LETTER.

JANUS FACE

THE OPENING OF THE LETTER IS A LOOK BACKWARD TO THE VISION OF JESUS, THEN IT'S LOOKING FORWARD WITH A PROMISE

WHOEVER HAS EARS...

THE OPENING OF THE LETTER IS A LOOK BACKWARD TO THE VISION OF JESUS, THEN IT'S LOOKING FORWARD WITH A PROMISE

"THE CHURCH IS A LISTENING POST. WHEN WE'RE AT CHURCH, WE NEED TO COCK OUR EARS TO HEAVEN TO SAY, WHAT IS THE SPIRIT SAYING TO US? WHAT IS JESUS SAYING TO US?" - EUGENE PETERSON

CHAPTER 2:1-7 TO THE ANGEL OF THE CHURCH...

AN EXPRESSION USED TO REMIND THE CHURCHES THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THEIR EXISTENCE IS _____.

IN THE BOOK OF _____, WE SEE THAT THERE IS AN ANGEL REPRESENTATIVE THAT IS STAGED AND READY TO HELP US.



THE ONE...SAYS THIS

THIS IS A CALL BACK TO OT LANGUAGE WHERE _____ IS SPEAKING.

"THESE THINGS, SAYS THE LORD..." OCCURS OVER _____ TIMES.

THIS ALSO MAKES THESE LETTERS _____ IN NATURE BECAUSE OF THE SOURCE.

These things...



...WHO WALKS AMONG THE SEVEN GOLDEN LAMPSTANDS...

JESUS CAN SEE EVERYTHING THAT IS HAPPENING WITHIN THE CHURCHES BECAUSE HE WALKS _____ THEM.

...YOU CANNOT TOLERATE EVIL PEOPLE...

JESUS COMMENDS THEM BY PRAISING THEM FOR TESTING AND REJECTING _____ PROPHETS.

PAUL WROTE A WARNING ABOUT THIS IN _____.

...PERSEVERANCE...ENDURANCE...HAVE NOT GROWN WEARY.

DESPITE YOUR ENDURING AND PERSEVERING...YOU ARE NOT GETTING _____.

...YOU HAVE LEFT YOUR FIRST LOVE.



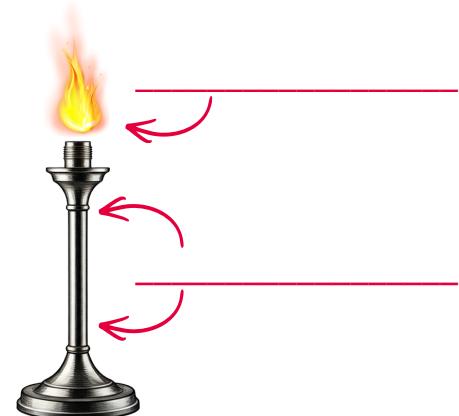
IT MOST LIKELY MEANS THAT THEY HAVE SIMPLY LOST THE _____ BEHIND THE GOSPEL MESSAGE.

_____ FOR JESUS LEADS US TO LOVE OTHERS AND WORK TO WIN THEM TO JESUS, BUT THIS IS WHAT THEY HAVE _____.

...I WILL REMOVE YOUR LAMPSTAND...

THE IDEA OF THIS LAMPSTAND IS THE _____ OF THE CHURCH TO THOSE WHO EXIST _____ IT.

IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT THE CHURCH IN EPHESUS HAS FORSAKEN THE _____.



...NICOLAITANS...

IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT THE NICOLAITANS WERE PROBABLY A _____ GROUP THAT TAUGHT THAT YOU COULD BE A CHRISTIAN AND STILL PARTICIPATE IN _____.

THE ONE WHO HAS AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT SAYS TO THE CHURCHES

ALLUDES TO JESUS HIMSELF IN _____

ALLUDES TO _____, _____ AND _____, _____

CHRIST'S MESSAGE WILL _____ SOME BUT _____ OTHERS.



...OVERCOME...

THIS WORD CAN ALSO BE TRANSLATED AS "_____".



IN ORDER TO _____ THE PROMISE OF SALVATION, YOU MUST
_____ THIS WORLD.

...EAT FROM THE TREE OF LIFE, WHICH IS IN THE PARADISE OF GOD.

ALLUDES TO _____ (UNFALLEN STATE OF MAN IN GARDEN)

Tree of Life = God's Presence

THE FORMULA FOR EPHESUS

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT:

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING WRONG:

HERE'S A PROMISE:

CHAPTER 2:8-11

...THE FIRST AND THE LAST, WHO WAS DEAD, AND HAS COME TO LIFE...

MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH IN SMYRNA ARE FACING SEVERE _____ AND
POTENTIAL _____.

BUT JESUS IS SOVEREIGN OVER _____ THINGS AND HE OWNS
_____.



...TRIBULATION...POVERTY...

THE JEWS _____ THEIR CHURCH WHICH IS CAUSING SIGNIFICANT
HARDSHIP.

...BUT YOU ARE RICH...

THEY ARE PHYSICALLY _____, BUT THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY _____.

THEY SERVE JESUS _____ IN THE FACE OF THIS SIGNIFICANT _____.



...SLANDER...

IT'S LIKELY THAT THE JEWS WERE _____ OF THE CHRISTIANS AND THE RATE AT WHICH OTHER JEWS WERE TURNING TOWARD JESUS.

THE JEWISH PEOPLE BEGAN TO TURN PEOPLE OVER TO THE _____.

SIDE NOTE

THE IMPERIAL CULT WAS WOVEN IN AND THROUGH EVERY ASPECT OF LIFE IN THE CITY AS WELL AS THE VILLAGES SURROUNDING IT.

FOR CHRISTIANS TO REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE IN WORSHIP AND SACRIFICE TO THE EMPEROR WOULD AFFECT THE WAY THEY BUY AND SELL.

...SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN...

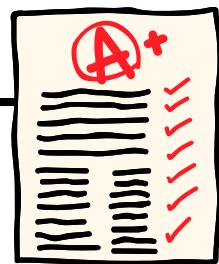
JESUS IS BLATANTLY IDENTIFYING THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS THE _____ ISRAEL.

DO NOT FEAR...

THE THINGS THE PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH ARE ABOUT THE FACE MIGHT BE THE _____ POSSIBLE THINGS.

...YOU WILL BE TESTED...

JESUS IS USING THE DEVIL'S TRICKS AND SCHEMES AS A WAY TO BUILD _____ IN HIS PEOPLE.



...SO THAT...

EVEN THE WORK OF THE DEVIL IS USED AS PART OF GOD'S _____.

...TRIBULATION...

ALLUDES TO _____

SMYRNA WAS OBVIOUSLY STRUGGLING WITH THE SAME TEMPTATIONS TOWARD _____.

Θλῖψις = thlipsin = _____

DANIEL 1:15 - AT THE END OF TEN DAYS THEY LOOKED BETTER AND HEALTHIER THAN ALL THE YOUNG MEN WHO WERE EATING THE KING'S FOOD.

...CROWN OF LIFE.

THE CROWN IS POINTING TOWARD CHRIST'S _____ RULE.

THE CROWN IS SORT OF A "_____ " SORT OF THING.

...SECOND DEATH...



IT'S AN IRONIC VICTORY BECAUSE YOUR _____ DEFEAT HOLDS A
_____ VICTORY.



JESUS HAS THE POWER TO _____ THE SATANIC PRINCE OF DEATH
AND _____ THEM FROM ENDURING A SECOND SPIRITUAL DEATH.

THE FORMULA FOR SMYRNA

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT:

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING WRONG:

HERE'S A PROMISE:

REFLECTION/APPLICATION

WHAT ARE MODERN WAYS A CHURCH (OR INDIVIDUAL BELIEVER) CAN BE "RIGHT" BUT NOT ALIVE?

THEY ARE CALLED "POOR," YET JESUS SAYS THEY ARE RICH. WHAT DOES THIS REVEAL ABOUT HOW GOD MEASURES SUCCESS AND SECURITY?

IF JESUS WROTE A LETTER TO OUR CHURCH, WHAT DO YOU THINK HE WOULD PRAISE? OR WHAT MIGHT HE CHALLENGE?