

# 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

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

### WHY 7?

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

### A GENRE WITHIN A GENRE

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

### JANUS FACE

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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...

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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...

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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...

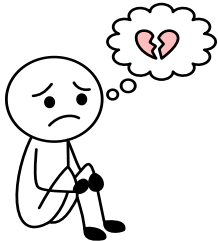
JESUS COMMENDS THEM BY PRAISING THEM FOR TESTING AND REJECTING \_\_\_\_\_ PROPHETS.

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 \_\_\_\_\_.

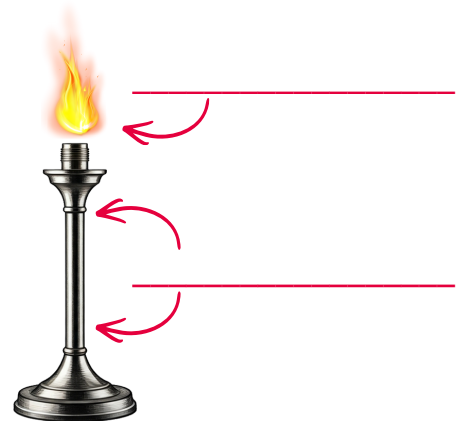
### ...I WILL REMOVE YOUR LAMPSTAND...

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

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ALLUDES TO JESUS HIMSELF IN \_\_\_\_\_

ALLUDES TO \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

CHRIST'S MESSAGE WILL \_\_\_\_\_ SOME BUT \_\_\_\_\_ OTHERS.



### ...OVERCOME...

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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.

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ALLUDES TO \_\_\_\_\_ (UNFALLEN STATE OF MAN IN GARDEN)

Tree of Life = God's Presence

## THE FORMULA FOR EPHESUS

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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...

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

BUT JESUS IS SOVEREIGN OVER \_\_\_\_\_ THINGS AND HE OWNS  
\_\_\_\_\_.



### ...TRIBULATION...POVERTY...

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THE JEWS \_\_\_\_\_ THEIR CHURCH WHICH IS CAUSING SIGNIFICANT  
\_\_\_\_\_ HARDSHIP.

### ...BUT YOU ARE RICH...

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THEY ARE PHYSICALLY \_\_\_\_\_, BUT THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY \_\_\_\_\_.  
THEY SERVE JESUS \_\_\_\_\_ IN THE FACE OF THIS SIGNIFICANT \_\_\_\_\_.



### ...SLANDER...

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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...

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JESUS IS BLATANTLY IDENTIFYING THE JEWISH PEOPLE AS THE \_\_\_\_\_ ISRAEL.

### DO NOT FEAR...

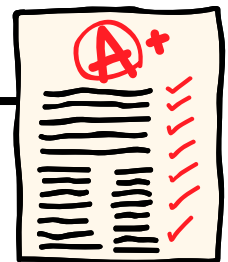
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THE THINGS THE PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH ARE ABOUT THE FACE MIGHT BE THE \_\_\_\_\_ POSSIBLE THINGS.

### ...YOU WILL BE TESTED...

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



### ...SO THAT...

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

### ...TRIBULATION...

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ALLUDES TO \_\_\_\_\_

SMYRNA WAS OBVIOUSLY STRUGGLING WITH THE SAME TEMPTATIONS TOWARD \_\_\_\_\_.

θλίψιν = 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.

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THE CROWN IS POINTING TOWARD CHRIST'S \_\_\_\_\_ RULE.

THE CROWN IS SORT OF A " \_\_\_\_\_ " SORT OF THING.

### ...SECOND DEATH...

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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

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HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT:

\_\_\_\_\_

HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE DOING WRONG:

\_\_\_\_\_

HERE'S A PROMISE:

\_\_\_\_\_

## REFLECTION/APPLICATION

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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?