



Sardis is Dead

Revelation 3:1-6 (ESV)

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

“‘I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. ³Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

⁴Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

Repeated phrase #1

“I know”

1. God is acquainted with the details of our lives
2. Jesus is speaking from a position of knowledge not hearsay

How does a church die?

1. Living on past success i.e. traditions, accomplishments
2. Idolatry
 - a. Dependence on “self”
 - b. Worship of other gods i.e. pastor, styles, comfort, legalism

Sermon in a sentence

The activity of life does not mean the presence of life.

How to revive it

1. Remember (3a)
2. Repent (3b)
 - a. Repeated word – Repent

Revelation is about Jesus. Jesus came to conquer death. He resurrected from death. This letter to Sardis is filled with hope because even though you are dead you can be alive again. Sardis screams resurrection!

Repeated phrase #2

If you have ears, listen!