

Ephesus

Jesus	Commendation	Reproof	Instructions & Warnings	Promise of Overcomers	Message to Churches
<p>holds 7 stars in right hand (2:1) stars = angels (1:20)</p> <p>walks among the 7 golden lampstands lampstands = churches (1:20)</p> <p>cf 1:12-13, 16, 20</p> <p>Jesus walks among the churches and hold them in His hands - He sees, He knows what is going on</p>	<p>not tolerating evil men (2:2)</p> <p>testing those who call themselves apostles (2:2)</p> <p>toiling, persevering (2:2)</p> <p>discernment (1 Thes 5:20-21)</p> <p>endured for Christ's sake - haven't grown weary (2:3)</p>	<p>left their first love (2:4)</p> <p>passion for Christ had grown cold</p> <p>they do things because that's what they are expected to do</p> <p>legalism? mechanical becomes routine, mundane, redundancy</p> <p>doing the right thing for the wrong reason</p>	<p>remember from where you have fallen (2:5)</p> <p>repent</p> <p>do deeds that you did at first</p> <p>Jesus will remove their lampstand if they don't repent</p>	<p>the overcomer gets to eat from the tree of life in the paradise of God (2:7)</p> <p>Gen 3:22-24 - the tree of life allowed man to live forever</p> <p>man was kicked out of the garden so he didn't have access to the tree anymore</p> <p>Rev 22:1-2, 14, 19 Tree of life that has fruit - is in heaven</p> <p>robes need to be washed to eat from the tree</p> <p>those who take away from God's word will not be given access to this tree</p>	<p>need to guard our relationship with Christ - it can't become mundane repeated actions with no heart of love</p> <p>they will know we are Christians by our love!</p> <p>Remember what happened that lead you into a loveless relationship with God and repent</p> <p>we lose sight of God when we love the world (James 4:4)</p> <p>just because we look religious, doesn't mean we have a right relationship with God</p>

Smyrna

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<p>first and the last (2:8)</p> <p>was dead but has come to life (2:8)</p> <p>cf 1:18, 8</p>	<p>tribulation and poverty</p> <p>they are rich - in the Lord, in His blessings</p> <p>they are standing firm</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>don't fear what you are going to suffer (2:10)</p> <p>some sent to prison</p> <p>tested</p> <p>tribulation for 10 days (cf Daniel 1:12, 14?) (10 persecutions of the church starting with Dometian?)</p> <p>Be faithful until death (2:10) - you will receive the crown of life</p>	<p>crown of life (2:10)</p> <p>will not be hurt by the second death (2:11)</p> <p>cf Rev 21:8 second death - burning in the lake of fire - which happens who don't believe (not saved)</p> <p>death - separation</p> <p>spiritual death - separated from God (Gen 3)</p> <p>physical death - body being separated from the spirit</p> <p>emotional death - separated from others</p>	<p>I Peter 3:15 - be ready to make a defense for the hope that is in you - in gentleness and love</p> <p>Josh McDowell - Evidence that Demands a Verdict</p> <p>Ray Comfort - Living Waters</p> <p>Stand up under suffering, testing, persecution, tribulation - our testimony to the world</p>

Pergamum

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<p>One with sharp two-edged sword (2:12)</p> <p>cf 1:16</p> <p>Heb 4:12 - word of God which is living and active</p> <p>piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit</p> <p>able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart</p>	<p>I know where you dwell - where Satan's throne is (2:13)</p> <p>hold fast His name</p> <p>did not deny His faith even in the days of Antipas (Christ's witness and faithful one who was killed)</p>	<p>some hold to the teaching of Balaam (2:14)</p> <p>putting stumbling blocks before the people - eat things sacrificed to idols and commit immorality</p> <p>Numbers 22-25:9</p> <p>Balaam taught Balak to get the people involved in their false religion and let God curse them for disobeying His commands</p> <p>some hold to the teachings of the Nicolaitans (2:15) - teaching on sensuality that led people to immorality and wickedness</p>	<p>repent (2:16)</p> <p>He will come quickly and make war with them with the sword of His mouth</p>	<p>some hidden manna (2:17)</p> <p>Ex 16:13-15, 26-35</p> <p>Heb 9:1-5</p> <p>Dt 8:3</p> <p>John 6:31-40, 48-51 (God's provision - provision was going to be in Jesus who would be the Bread of Life)</p> <p>white stone</p> <p>Greek - innocent versus guilty</p> <p>Rome - admission to a special feast</p> <p>new name on the stone that no one knows</p>	<p>We cannot tolerate false teachers within our churches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - false doctrines - leads people away from God - tickling the ears (II Tim 4:3-4) <p>Be careful with false teachings</p> <p>Our churches today - become entertainment</p> <p>REPENT</p> <p>We will be judged by what we did with His Word</p>

Thyatira

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<p>eyes like a flame of fire (2:18)</p> <p>feet like <u>burnished</u> brass</p> <p>Son of God</p> <p>cf: Rev 1:14, 15</p>	<p>deeds (2:19) love faith service perseverance</p> <p>deeds now are greater than at first</p>	<p>tolerate the woman Jezebel (2:20)</p> <p>calls herself a prophetess</p> <p>leads people astray - leading them into immorality</p> <p>Jezebel - evil and came into Israel as their queen and lead the people astray with her prophets of Baal</p> <p>God gave them time to repent but they didn't even want to (2:21)</p>	<p>unless they repent they will be given tribulation (2:22-23)</p> <p>God will smite her children with pestilence so that all will know that Jesus is the one who searches the minds and hearts of people - He will give to each on according to deeds</p> <p>there are those who are not holding to this teaching - hold fast until I come (2:24-25)</p>	<p>overcomer = he who keeps My works (deeds) until the end (2:26-28)</p> <p>power and ruling over the nations with a rod of iron Rev 5:10, 3:21; Ps 2:8-9; Lk 19:11-19</p> <p>given the morning star</p> <p>morning star Dan 12:1-4 - stars will shine brightly leading to righteousness</p> <p>Matt 13:43 - the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of God</p> <p>II Peter 1:19 - lamp shining in dark place until morning star arises in your heart</p> <p>Rev 22:16 - Jesus is the bright and morning star</p>	<p>We need to beware of the false teachers and not allow them into the churches - no matter what their position or titles may be</p> <p>the church will fall from following those in positions of authority and teaching what is wrong</p> <p>I John 4:1 - test the spirits Acts 17:11 - examine the Scriptures daily to see if these things are so</p> <p>Our responsibility - just because we hear it doesn't make it true - we need to search the Scriptures</p> <p>Rom 14:12 - man will give an account for his own actions</p>

Sardis

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<p>He who has the 7 Spirit of God and the 7 stars (3:1)</p> <p>cf 1:16, 20 - 7 stars in His right hand = 7 angels of the 7 churches</p> <p>7 = fullness, completion, perfection</p> <p>cf Rev 1:4 - 7 Spirits before God's throne</p> <p>cf Is 11:2 - Spirit of the Lord - wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, fear</p>	<p>there are a few that haven't soiled their garments - walk with Jesus in white for they are worthy (3:4)</p>	<p>are dead (Rev 3:1)</p> <p>their deeds are not complete (3:2)</p>	<p>wake up (3:2)</p> <p>strengthen the things that remain (3:2) - which are about to die</p> <p>remember what you have received and heard (3:3)</p> <p>Keep it and repent</p> <p>If they don't wake up He will come like a thief and they won't know when He comes (3:3)</p> <p>I Thes 5:1-11 - thief in the night comes to those who are in the darkness (Eph 5:7-14)</p> <p>Matthew 24:32 - be prepared and busy about the Master's work</p>	<p>clothed in white garments (3:5) - Rev 7:9</p> <p>I will not erase his name from the book of life (3:6) - Rev 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27 - Ps 69:19, 22-28</p> <p>I will confess his name before My Father (3:6)</p>	<p>Be alert and be aware</p> <p>Christ is coming soon - be ready</p> <p>walk as children of the light</p>

Philadelphia

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<p>Holy, True (3:7) holds the key of David who opens and no one can shut, can shut and no one open</p> <p>Jesus has the keys to death and Hades (1:18)</p>	<p>deeds (3:8)</p> <p>open door (to the kingdom of God)</p> <p>little faith (power) (Mt 17:20 - faith of the mustard seed - to move mountains) - power = dunamys (dynamite = power that comes from God)</p> <p>kept God's word, and not denied His name</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>He is coming quickly (3:11)</p> <p>Hold fast - so no one will take your crown</p>	<p>make him a pillar in the temple of My God (3:12)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I Pet 2:4-10 - Eph 2:19-22 - Rev 21:1-7, 10, 22 <p>Write on him the name of God and Jesus' new name - Rev 19:12</p> <p>unrighteous will bow at their feet (3:9-10) they will be kept from the hour of testing - coming to those who dwell on the earth (unrighteous) - cf - I Thes 5:9-10</p>	<p>Jesus is coming quickly - we need to be ready</p> <p>How would we live if we knew that we only had a day left (week, month)</p> <p>Live with the knowledge that every moment may be our last (opportunity)</p> <p>Hold fast to our belief, our hope, our trust in the word of God - we live in an anti-God/Christ world</p> <p>False teaching that has infiltrated our church</p>

Laodicea

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<p>The Amen - it is true</p> <p>faithful and True Witness</p> <p>Beginning of the Creation of God</p> <p>cf 1:5 - faithful witness, first born of the dead, ruler of the kings of earth</p> <p>first born of the dead - Jesus come to life after being dead - first to break the power of death (sin) and made the way for others to follow</p>		<p>Lukewarm - not hot or not cold (3:16)</p> <p>He will spit them out of His mouth (vomit)</p> <p>They make God sick</p> <p>They have need of nothing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wretched - miserable - poor - blind - naked 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - buy from Him (3:18) - gold - white garments - eye salve <p>(we don't need God, we provide everything we need)</p> <p>God reproves and disciplines those He loves</p> <p>zealous and repent</p> <p>Jesus is knocking the door of the church (He is outside the church) - they don't need Him (so they think) because they have everything they need</p>	<p>sit down with Christ on His throne (3:21)</p> <p>Matt 19:28</p> <p>Matt 25:31</p> <p>I Cor 6:2-3</p> <p>Rev 5:10</p> <p>Rev 20:6</p> <p>Rev 2:26-27</p>	<p>Many of these churches today - they have locked the door with Jesus on the outside</p> <p>humility leads to repentance</p> <p>humility = recognizing our inability to get to heaven because of our sin (wrong choices)</p>