

Sunday NightLife

West London Alliance Church

A Study of The Book of Revelation

#3. REVELATION 1:12-3:22

September 24, 2000

From #2:

- According to Revelation 1:1-11, it is “*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*” communicated to John, “*His bond-servant*” and a “*brother and fellow-partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance*” for seven actual churches in regard to “*the things which must shortly take place.*”

TONIGHT...

The seven actual _____ to the seven actual _____, and how John _____ them.

HOW JOHN RECEIVED THE LETTERS

HE SAW...

“I saw seven golden _____; and in the middle of the lampstands one like _____, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His breast with a golden girdle. And His head and His hair were _____; and His eyes were like _____; and His feet were like _____, when it has been caused to glow in a furnace...and in His right hand He held _____; and out of His mouth came _____; and His face was like _____ shining in its strength” (Rev. 1:12-16)

HE HEARD...

“I heard behind me a loud voice like _____, saying, ‘*Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.*’” (Rev. 1:10-11)

“His voice was like _____. ...And he laid His right hand upon me, saying, ‘*Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Write therefore the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall take place after these things. As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.*’” (Rev. 1:15,17-20)

Guiding Principles for Christians in Difficulties

1. Christ has _____ and _____.
Matthew 28:18-20

2. Christ knows _____ and _____ and _____.
Romans 14:10-12; I Corinthians 4:5; II Corinthians 5:10

3. Christ commands us _____ and threatens _____.
Mark 8:38; II Timothy 2:12

4. Christ calls us _____ and promises _____.
Matthew 25:21; II Timothy 2:12

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#3A. REVELATION 1:12-3:22

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SEVEN ACTUAL LETTERS TO SEVEN ACTUAL CHURCHES						
I. Christ Identifies Himself						
Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamum	Thyatira	Sardis	Philadelphia	Laodicea
<p>Rev. 2:1 The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 2:8 The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life, says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 2:12 The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 2:18 The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 3:1 He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 3:7 He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:</p>	<p>Rev. 3:14 The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:</p>
II. He Summarizes Their Spiritual Condition						
<p>Rev. 2:2-4 'I know your deeds and your toil and perseverance, and that you cannot tolerate evil men, and you put to the test those who call themselves apostles, and they are not, and you found them <i>to be false</i>; ³and you have perseverance and have endured for My name's sake, and have not grown weary. ⁴But I have <i>this</i> against you, that you have left your first love.</p>	<p>Rev. 2:9 'I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich), and the blasphemy by those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.</p>	<p>Rev. 2:13-15 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit <i>acts of immorality</i>. ¹⁵So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.</p>	<p>Rev. 2:19-23 'I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first. ²⁰But I have <i>this</i> against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit <i>acts of immorality</i> and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. ²²Behold, I will throw her on a bed of <i>sickness</i>, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. ²³And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.</p>	<p>Rev. 3:1 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.</p>	<p>Rev. 3:8 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have kept My word, and have not denied My name.</p>	<p>Rev. 3:15-16 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. ¹⁶So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.</p>

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III. He instructs and warns them					
<p>Ephesus Rev. 2:5-6 ‘Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place--unless you repent. ⁶Yet this you do have, and I will give you the that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.</p>	<p>Smyrna Rev. 2:10 ‘Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.</p>	<p>Pergamum Rev. 2:16 ‘Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.</p>	<p>Thyatira Rev. 2:24-25 ‘But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them--I place no other burden on you. ²⁵Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.</p>	<p>Sardis Rev. 3:2-4 ‘Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. ³So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. ⁴But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.</p>	<p>Philadelphia Rev. 3:9-11 ‘Behold, I will cause those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie--I will make them come and bow down at your feet, and make them know that I have loved you. ¹⁰Because you have kept the word of My perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. ¹¹I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.</p>
<p>Laodicea Rev. 3:17-20 ‘Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,” and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked, ¹⁸I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and that the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. ¹⁹Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he will come in to him and will dine with him, and he will dine with Me.</p>	<p>Philadelphia Rev. 3:12 ‘He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; and I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God, and My new name.’</p>	<p>Sardis Rev. 3:5 ‘He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.’</p>	<p>Thyatira Rev. 2:26-28 ‘He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; ²⁷and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father; ²⁸and I will give him the morning star.’</p>	<p>Pergamum Rev. 2:17 ‘To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.’</p>	<p>Philadelphia Rev. 3:21 ‘He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.’</p>
IV. He makes a promise to those who overcome					
<p>Rev. 2:7 ‘To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is in the Paradise of God.’</p>	<p>Rev. 2:11 ‘He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.’</p>	<p>Rev. 2:17 ‘To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.’</p>	<p>Rev. 2:26-28 ‘He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations; ²⁷and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to pieces, as I also have received authority from My Father; ²⁸and I will give him the morning star.’</p>	<p>Rev. 3:5 ‘He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.’</p>	<p>Rev. 3:21 ‘He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.’</p>