

Lesson 10

Revelation 2-3

[Briefly summarize the main point for each church listed below.]

1. Ephesus: the Lost Love Church (2:1-7)

Identification (2:1) –

Commendation (2:2-3, 6) –

Condemnation (2:4) –

Exhortation (2:5) –

Salvation (2:7) –

2. Smyrna: the Poor Rich Church (2:8-11)

Identification (2:8) –

Commendation (2:9) –

Exhortation (2:10) –

Salvation (2:11) –

3. Pergamum: The False Teaching Church (2:12-17)

Identification (2:12) –

Commendation (2:13) –

Condemnation (2:14-15) –

Exhortation (2:16) –

Salvation (2:17) –

4. Thyratira: The Tolerant Seduced Church (2:18-29)

Identification (2:18) –

Commendation (2:19) –

Condemnation (2:20-21) –

Exhortation (2:22-25) –

Salvation (2:26-29) –

5. Sardis: The Living Dead Church (3:1-6)

Identification (3:1) –

Commendation (3:1, 4) –

Condemnation (3:1-2) –

Exhortation (3:2-3) –

Salvation (3:5-6) –

6. Philadelphia: The Open Door Church (3:7-13)

Identification (3:7) –

Commendation (3:8-10) –

Exhortation (3:11) –

Salvation (3:12-13) –

7. Laodicea: The Satisfied Lukewarm Church (3:14-22)

Identification (3:14) –

Condemnation (3:15-17) –

Exhortation (3:18-20) –

Salvation (2:21-22) –

• Digging Deeper

1. Where are the seven churches of Asia located?

2. What “coming” of Jesus is referred to in these chapters (2:5, 16, 25; 3:3, 11)?

3. What do we know about the Nicolaitans (2:6, 15)?

4. What is the “synagogue of Satan” (2:9; 3:9)?

5. What is the “second death” (2:11)?

6. Who was Balak and where in the OT is his story told (2:14)?

• Applications for Today

1. Jesus said seven times: “These things says ...” (2:1, 8, 12, etc.). Jesus reminded each local church of his greatness before he told them what they needed to do. Who is it that we are listening to when we listen to Jesus (Mt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1-4)? What kind of lord and king do we serve (1 Tim. 6:14-16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16)?

2. Jesus said seven times: “I know...” (2:2, 9, 13, 19; 3:1, 8, 15; see especially 2:23). Jesus knows all, good or bad. He knows what takes place in each local church and he will hold each local church accountable. What did Jesus know about some of the Jews of his day (Jn. 5:42) and what did he know about his apostles (Jn. 13:18)?

3. Jesus encouraged the Christians to “overcome” seven times (2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21). It is important to “overcome” whatever obstacle there is on earth in order to go to heaven. Who has already overcome the world (Jn. 16:33; Rev. 3:21; 5:5)? Can Christians overcome evil (Rom. 12:21; 1 Jn. 2:13-14; 4:4; Rev. 12:11)? What is necessary to overcome the world (1 Jn. 5:4-5)? Which Christians will overcome in the end (Rev. 17:14)?

4. Jesus said seven times: “He that has an ear to hear, let him hear...” (2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22). We must hear what the (Holy) Spirit says to the church. We must always keep open eyes, ears, and hearts regarding God’s word. Why do some with ears not hear at all (Mt. 13:13-16; Acts 28:27)?