

Lessons From Seven Churches

Qualities Necessary For A Church To Please The Lord
Revelation 2 & 3

Letter Addressed To Seven Churches

- John is the writer. Revelation 1:1-2
- Words are from the Lord. Revelation 1:17-19
 - Awesome credentials. Revelation 1:5-8

Seven Churches Received A Divine Report Card

- Two churches receive commendation.
 - Smyrna (2:8-11) & Philadelphia (3:7-13).
- Two churches received condemnation.
 - Sardis (3:1-6) & Laodicea (3:14-22).
- Three churches received a mixed report of commendation and condemnation.
 - Ephesus (2:1-7), Pergamum (2:12-17) & Thyatira (2:18-29).

Seven Churches Received A Divine Report Card

- "I KNOW" is found in all seven.
 - Revelation 2:1; 2:9; 2:12; 2:19; 3:1; 3:15

Lessons From Seven Churches

- Works.
 - Ephesus. Revelation 2:2-3 "and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary." NKJV
 - Thyatira. Revelation 2:19
- Word taught by every Christian. (Acts 8:4; Matthew 28:18-19; 2 Timothy 2:2)

Lessons From Seven Churches

- Keep the church morally pure.
 - Ephesus. Revelation 2:2
 - Thyatira. Revelation 2:20
 - Sardis. Revelation 3:4
- Discipline must be practiced. (2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15)
 - To save the erring Christian. (1 Corinthians 5:1-7; cf. 2 Corinthians 2:6)
 - Little leaven leavens the whole lump. (1 Corinthians 5:6)

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Identify and correct false teachers.**
 - Ephesus. Revelation 2:2
 - Pergamum. Revelation 2:14-15
 - Philadelphia. Revelation 3:8
- False teachers will come. 2 Peter 2:1; cf. Galatians 1:6-9
- Divine standard of truth. John 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Jude 3; cf. Romans 16:17
- Need for godly elders. Acts 20:28-31
 - Danger from within. Acts 20:30
 - Watch. Acts 20:31

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Perseverance.**
 - Ephesus. Revelation 2:2-3
 - Pergamum. Revelation 2:13
- Devil a worthy adversary. 1 Peter 5:8
- Must count the cost. Luke 14:25-28; Matthew 10:34-39
- No place to quit. cf. Hebrews 11:32-38

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Keep the passion.**
 - Ephesus. Revelation 2:4 "Thou didst leave thy first love."
- Background.
 - Faith in Christ. Ephesians 1:15
 - Endured with boldness the teaching of the gospel. Acts 19:8
 - Publicly and from house to house. Acts 20:20
 - Heard Paul in school of Tyrannus for 2 years. Acts 19:9-10
 - Investigated and exposed false teachers. Acts 19:13-20; cf. Revelation 2:2
 - Word spread from them. Acts 19:20
- Fatal error. Revelation 2:5

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Maintain love for one another.**
 - Thyatira. Revelation 2:19
- Importance. John 13:34-35; 1 Corinthians 13

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Keep a strong faith.**
 - Thyatira. Revelation 2:19
- Necessity of faith. Hebrews 11:6
 - Working faith. James 2:26

Lessons From Seven Churches

- **Stay alive.**
 - Sardis. Revelation 3:1
- Lord views as living, dying, or dead.
 - cf. 1 Corinthians 11:30

How Does The Lord View Us?

- Quality of worship. John 4:24
- Thirst for truth. Matthew 5:6
- Young people and knowledge of truth. Proverbs 22:6; Judges 2:10; Hosea 4:6
- Teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2-4; Acts 20:20, 27
- Attitude toward each other. cf. Galatians 6:1

Lessons From Seven Churches

- Works
- Moral purity.
- Identifying false teaching.
- Perseverance.
- Passion.
- Love.
- Strong faith.
- Stay alive.