

## Revelation is in 2 chapters for the Church

Church history is not just about America! The Church extends over the period of time studied in Revelation 2-3. Very important, this is the Church, not individuals.

Jesus Christ now speaks in regards to seven churches. We have seven Churches in the Church Age.

You can set aside the Rapture, the Tribulation and concentrate on the service of each of the seven churches. As it gets close to the end of the Church Age, local Churches should serve the Lord all the more. Churches should concentrate on the growth in the knowledge of the Word of God.

At the close of the Church Age, Apostasy Increases. This is why Churches should pay close attention to every problem mentioned in Revelation chapters 2-3. The Greek word *apostasy* means *fallen away* that is *fallen away from the truth*. As you move away from the truth, especially at the end of the age of the Church, so many will be enticed by money or by just the love of the world to move away from the truth of the Word of God.

**1 Timothy 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,**

**1 Timothy 4:2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron**

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You should be aware that most of the attacks and cults began in churches. Satan moves against churches through fallen angels like the Mormons and Islam. Continuing in

**2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not tolerate sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance with their own desires,**

**2 Timothy 4:4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth and will turn aside to myths**

*The Church Under Jesus Christ Study*

1. The Church will continually move against love toward Jesus Christ.
2. The Church will continue tribulation and Satan will bring suffering to the Church. God the Father defeats Satan.
3. The Church will constantly be attacked with false teaching and to compromise its beliefs from the Word of God The Power of the Holy Spirit.
4. The Church will constantly be attacked to follow False Prophets and be prey to cult leaders. The Power of the Word of God.
5. Some Churches will be spiritually dead and will be ‘the living dead.’ This happens by abandoning life in the Holy Spirit. The Church was constantly in need of Prayer.
6. Here are the Churches who maintain their faith despite tribulations The Church which lives by Grace.

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7. Many Churches are ‘Lukewarm.’ It is easy to become complacent in faith in Jesus Christ and the Word of God. The Church should be Holy.

So we will simply look at the Seven Churches.

1. *Message to Ephesus: Church to love Jesus Christ*

**Revelation 2:1 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand, the One who walks among the seven golden lampstands, says this:**

**Revelation 2:2 ‘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 to the test, and they are not, and you found them to be false;**

**Revelation 2:3 and you have perseverance and have endured for My names sake, and have not grown weary**

**Revelation 2:4 But I have this against you, that you have left your first love.**

**Revelation 2:5 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 I will remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.**

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**Revelation 2:6 Yet this, you do have that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.**

**Revelation 2:7 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will grant to eat from the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.'**

Here was a church that was doctrinally correct, but was cold! In Hebrews chapter 6 they have fallen away. But God has not forgotten your love and your good works. People, you can be right theologically, but if you have lost your first love for Jesus Christ then your theology is nothing but cold academics. Here is the power of the Holy Spirit! It is the powerful combination of sound doctrine and the love of Jesus Christ in the Power of the Holy Spirit that makes a church what it can be before God.

**2. *The Church of Smyrna-The Church suffers to glorify Jesus Christ.***

**Revelation 2:8 and to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: the first and the last. Who was dead, and has come to life, says this:**

**Revelation 2:9 I know your tribulations 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.**

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**Revelation 2:10 Do not fear about what you are about to suffer. But the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for 10 days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**

**Revelation 2:11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.**

America has never been under this kind of suffering. But what about the Church in Nigeria, Church in Sudan, or Church in China? They are suffering in tribulation. Tens of thousands Christians have suffered in Communist China. It started at the beginning of the Church Age and as it reached to farther lands around the world and is suffering today. Satan comes after them to slaughter Christians. And to them Christ Himself comes and offers them blessings to them. Satan is centered in suffering, but Christ offers a Crown of Life.

**3. *The Church at Pergamum***

**Revelation 2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:**

**Revelation 2:13 ‘I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is; and you hold firmly to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful**

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**one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.**

**Revelation 2:14 But I have a few things against you, because you have some there 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 sexual immorality.**

**Revelation 2:15 So you too, have some who in the same way hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.**

**Revelation 2:16 Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will wage war against them with the sword of My mouth.**

**Revelation 2:17 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes, 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 except the one who receives it.'**

Every Church, throughout the Church Age is attacked by Satan, who is the prince of the world. Every Church is attacked that teaches the Word of God to set down the truth of the Word of God, to satisfy the world. Therefore there is the need every hour for the Holy Spirit. Satan is always attacking but the Holy Spirit is greater than Satan.

4. *The Church at Thyatira*

**Revelation 2:18** “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and feet like burnished bronze, says this:

**Revelation 2:19** ‘I know your deeds, and your love and faith, and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first.

**Revelation 2:20** But I have this 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 sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

**Revelation 2:21** I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her sexual immorality.

**Revelation 2:22** Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.

**Revelation 2:23** And I will kill her children with plague, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts;

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**and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.**

**Revelation 2:24 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.**

**Revelation 2:25 Nevertheless what you have, hold firmly until I come.**

**Revelation 2:26 The one who overcomes, and the one who keeps My deeds until the end, I will give him authority over the nations;**

**Revelation 2:27 and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are shattered, as I also have received authority from My Father;**

**Revelation 2:28 and I will give him the morning star.**

**Revelation 2:29 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'**

Every Church is attacked with immorality. Today she is even attacked with the lowest form of immorality in homosexuality and transgender. There will be a few in the assembly who will continue to hold on to the truth of the Word of God. Immorality leads to all kinds of sins. Now the real problem is that this attack on the Word of God attacks the truth of the Gospel. All through the Church Age,



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the Gospel has been attacked. The Social Gospel, the hard work Gospel etc.

The one who will remain in the truth will be given authority in the future time.

**5. *The Church at Sardis.***

**Revelation 3:1 “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, and yet you are dead.**

**Revelation 3:2 Be constantly alert, 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.**

**Revelation 3:3 So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Then if you are not alert, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.**

**Revelation 3:4 But 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.**

**Revelation 3:5 The one who overcomes will be clothed the same way, in white garments; and**

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**I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.**

**Revelation 3:6 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'**

Here is a church with people doing things for the church but the church is dead. How do people become 'dead?' They never walk in the Power of the Holy Spirit. When they do not walk in the Holy Spirit they are inactive in life and are just as if they are dead. But a few believers in this Church walk in the power of the Holy Spirit and walk with Christ.

**6. *The Church at Philadelphia!***

**Revelation 3:7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 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:**

**Revelation 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 followed My word, and have not denied My name.**

**Revelation 3:9 Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them**

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**come and bow down before your feet, and make them know that I have loved you.**

**Revelation 3:10 Because you have kept My word of perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of the testing, that hour which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who live on the earth.**

**Revelation 3:11 I am coming quickly; hold firmly to what you have, so that no one will take your crown.**

**Revelation 3:12 The one 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.**

**Revelation 3:13 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'**

This is a church which lives and serves by Grace! Satan works hard but the people answer in Grace and they counter in works of the Holy Spirit. This Church does not deny Jesus Christ. You will notice in some of the Churches how the Jews fight against the teaching of Jesus Christ, but Jesus Christ stands against the Jewish attack and stands for the Church here in Philadelphia.

*7. Laodicea*

**Revelation 3:14** “To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this:

**Revelation 3:15** ‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot.

**Revelation 3:16** So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

**Revelation 3:17** Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything,” and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked,

**Revelation 3:18** I 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 the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see.

**Revelation 3:19** Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.

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**Revelation 3:20 Behold, 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 with Me.**

**Revelation 3:21 The one who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne.**

**Revelation 3:22 The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”**

In the coming to the constant battle of apostasy as shown by Laodicea, you will notice that neither Satan nor the Jews are mentioned. Neither is a battle to this church. They take themselves out of the battle by not worshiping Christ. This is the church that ‘sickens’ Christ. It does not deny the Gospel, it does not even mention the gospel.

Chapters 2-3 of Revelation center on how things will be in Eternity. There are Seven Promises from Christ to those who overcome in the churches.

Revelation 2:7 I will grant to eat of the tree of life;

Revelation 2:11 not hurt by the second death;

Revelation 2:17 given some of the hidden manna and a white stone and a new name written on the stone which no one knows.

Revelation 2:26 given authority over the nations and He is given the Morning star;

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Revelation 3:5 ...he will be clothed in white garments and his name is not erased from the book of life and He will have his name confessed before God the Father

Revelation 3:12...he will be made of a pillar in the temple of My God.

Revelation 3:21 he will be granted to sit down with Jesus on His throne.

So people there are blessings waiting for everyone in Churches throughout Church Age.

*To Him who loves us*

*And released from our sins by His blood*

*And He has made us to be a kingdom,*

*Priests to His God and Father,*

*To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever.*

*Amen*

*Revelation 1:5-6*

For all Eternity, believers, Jews or Gentiles, will have a love for Jesus Christ and wear a crown of Righteousness and Glory. Eternity is filled with *mysteries and secrets* as hidden manna for all eternity. There is the authority over the nations.