

“The Seven Churches”

Revelation 2

Before JESUS judges the Earth, HE will first judge _____.

1 Peter 4:17

CHRIST’s judgments in Chapters 2-3 of Revelation are for:

1. The _____ of Asia Minor that existed in 96 A.D.
2. _____ for all time.
3. All individual _____ of the Church.
4. Seven phases (_____) of Church History.

The word **“Overcome”** means to win, to triumph, and to _____. JESUS told the Seven Churches, and all of us, that we can have _____ over, and not _____ to our sin, and Satan’s traps. **V.7, 11, 17, 26, 3:5, 3:12, 3:21** HE expects us to overcome!

I. **Ephesus** -The _____ Church. **V.1-7**

1. JESUS commends this church for its diligent _____, for standing for the _____, and for exposing false teaching. **V.2-3**
2. But JESUS corrected them because in all their increased work, they allowed their love for HIM to _____. **V.4-5 “fallen”**
3. HE told them to repent (change their _____) and to remember what it was like when their _____ for CHRIST was at its greatest, _____ what they did then. “First Works” are the spiritual _____ outlined in the Bible. **V.5**
4. If they failed to repent, JESUS would _____ them from the significant place HE put them. They would _____ their influence, their mission, and their _____ for existence. Mt. 22:36-38
5. This church was horribly influenced by _____, a Jerusalem deacon (Acts 6:5) who corrupted the Gospel by teaching that Christians could live _____ they wanted to, because there was freedom in GOD’s Grace. **V.6** JESUS _____ this poison given to HIS People.
6. But if these Believers chose to overcome, JESUS would _____ them by HIS Presence and by HIS resources. **V.7**

Questions: Do you have an _____? Are you listening? **V.7**

1. Have you _____ your first love for JESUS? Be honest.
2. Have you allowed other things to _____ your love for HIM?
3. Are you _____ for Scripture, Prayer?

II. **Smyrna** – The _____ Church. **V.8-11**

1. JESUS made it clear, (1:11, 17, 2:8, 22:13) HE is the _____ in everything. **V.8** HE is the First to be _____ from the dead, the first in Authority, the originator of all blessing. HE _____ all things. HE has the _____ on our lives and our death. HIS purpose is the first or _____ purpose for our lives. This is a huge _____ for those undergoing persecution for their faith.
2. HE said to them, "you _____," in the things that really matter.
3. HE said that he heard the blasphemy (_____ the character of GOD) **V.9** ...by those who were _____ ethnically, but were spiritually pagan. Rom. 2:28 These wicked people allied themselves with other pagans in _____ Christians, trying to stamp out Christianity. Instead of GOD's Spirit leading this Jewish synagogue, Satan was using it as a _____.
4. JESUS warned them about a _____ period of extreme persecution coming to the Church of Smyrna. **V.10** HE told them not to be afraid. _____ is designed by Satan to make Believers fall. But _____ is hardship allowed by GOD to bring purification and promotion. Faithfulness to the very end (_____) would bring unusual honor in the next life. **V.11** The _____ is Eternal separation in the _____, for those who reject CHRIST. Rev. 20:14-15

Questions:

1. Are you under _____ to deny your faith?
2. Are you afraid to face _____ for your faith in CHRIST?
3. Does hardship and disappointment drive you away from JESUS, or cause you to _____?

III. **Pergamum** – The _____ Church. **V. 12-17**

1. Compromise is the _____ of what you know to be true, in order to _____ your selfish flesh. 1 Kings 11
2. Balaam devised a plot to use Moabite women to _____ young Israelite men, as a stumbling block to make Israel fall. Num. 22-25
3. Compromise will _____ you, and JESUS will come against you.

Questions: Where have you compromised? Will you quickly _____ from your sin, before it is too late?

