

**Welcome to Calvary Chapel
of
Northern Kentucky**



Introduction

Key Verse

Revelation 1:1

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants--things which must shortly take place.

Introduction – Helpful Outline

- **1-3 – Exalted Priest-King, ministering to the churches.**
(Church is not mentioned again until chapter 19.)
- **4-5 – In heaven as the glorified Lamb of God on the throne**
- **6-18 – Judge of all the earth.**
- **19 – Conquering King of Kings**
- **20-22 – the Bride of Christ in the Millennial Kingdom and New Jerusalem**

Introduction – Helpful Outlines

Ages

- **Church Age – 1-3**
- **Tribulation Age – 4-19**
- **Kingdom Age – 20**
- **Eternal State – 21-22**

Introduction

The letters to the seven churches share a similar structure.

- *An address to a particular congregation.*
- *An introduction of Jesus.*
- *A statement regarding the condition of the church.*
 - *In two churches there is no commendation – Sardis and Laodicea;*
- *A verdict from Jesus regarding the condition of the church.*
 - *In two churches there is no correction – Smyrna and Philadelphia*
- *A command from Jesus to the church.*
- *A general exhortation to all Christians.*
- *A promise of reward.*

7 Churches of Revelation



Revelation 2:1-7

Remember, Repent, Return

Vv 1-7 Remember, Repent, Return

Acts 19:18-19

And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. Also, many of those who had practiced magic brought their books together and burned [them] in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and [it] totaled fifty thousand [pieces] of silver.

V 1

Jesus Describes Himself

Vv 2-3

**Jesus Describes the
Ephesian Church**

Vv 2-3 Jesus Describes the Ephesian Church

Paul's Warning: Acts 20:29-31

For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears.

V 4

Jesus Reveals the Problem

V4 – Jesus Reveals the Problem

the church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little Christs. If they are not doing that, all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible itself, are simply a waste of time. It is doubtful, you know, whether the whole universe was created for any other purpose. It says in the Bible that the whole universe was made for Christ and that everything is to be gathered together in Him. – CS Lewis, Mere Christianity

V4 – Jesus Reveals the Problem

“To love to preach is one thing, to love those to whom we preach quite another.”

– Dr. Martin Lloyd-Jones

V4 – Jesus Reveals the Problem

Matthew 23:23-25

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier [matters] of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. "Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence.

Vv 5-6

Jesus Reveals the Remedy

Vv 5-6 – Jesus Reveals the Remedy

Remember

Repent

Return

Vv 5-6 – Jesus Reveals the Remedy

Apparently, at least in the short term, the Ephesians heeded this warning. In the early second century (not too long after John wrote), Ignatius praised the love and the doctrinal purity of the Ephesians. “You, who are of the most holy Church of the Ephesians, which is so famous and celebrated throughout the world... you, being full of the Holy Spirit, do nothing according to the flesh, but all things according to the Spirit. You are complete in Christ Jesus.”

*(Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians, Chapter 8.
From the Ante Nicene Fathers Volume 1, page 52)
- As quoted by David Guzik*

Vv 5-6 – Jesus Reveals the Remedy

The Nicolaitanes are the followers of that Nicolas who was one of the seven first ordained to the diaconate by the apostles. They lead lives of unrestrained indulgence. The character of these men is plainly pointed out in the Apocalypse of John, as teaching that it is a matter of indifference to practice adultery, and to eat things sacrifice to idols.”

(Against Heresies, book 1, chapter 26.

From the Ante Nicean Fathers Volume 1, page 352)

- As quoted by David Guzik

V7

**Jesus Exhorts
and Encourages**

Taking it Home

- Let us have ears to hear what the Spirit says to us. Not assuming 'which church' describes us.
- Renew our relationship with Christ daily – not letting it wane in devotion or excitement

Taking it Home

“If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference.”

- A.W. Tozer

Taking it Home

- Let us have ears to hear what the Spirit says to us. Not assuming ‘which church’ describes us.
- Let us renew our relationship with Christ daily – not letting it wane in devotion or excitement.
- Let us commit to walking in the Holy Spirit, personally and as a Body; Remember, repent, return.
- Let us commit to loving in truth.

MEDITATION VERSE

Revelation 2:7

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God."

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace."