

**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

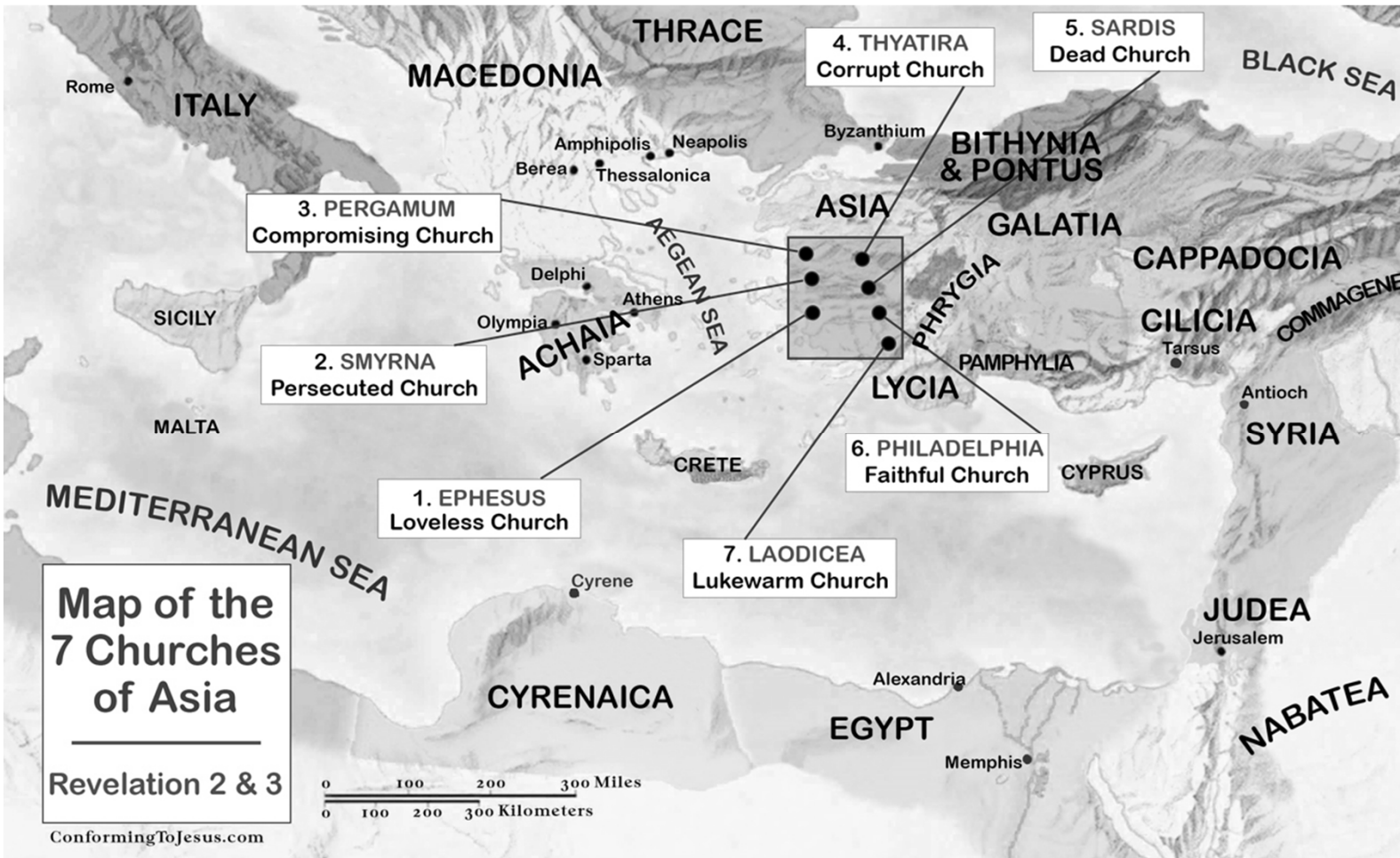
- **Church Age – 1-3**
- **Tribulation Age – 4-19**
- **Kingdom Age – 20**
- **Eternal State – 21-22**

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, Rome and Israel



Revelation 3:1-6

The Church of Sardis:

Don't Be Caught Dead in This Church

V1A Background on Sardis

- **Ephesus – 1st century. left their first love.**
- **Smyrna – 2nd-4th century. the persecuted church, abject poverty but rich in Christ.**
- **Pergamos – the compromised church – holds doctrines of Balaam and the Nicolaitans. Satan joins the church.**
- **Thyatira – begins the age of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.**
- **Sardis – the Protestant Age**

V1B Jesus Describes Himself

Has the seven spirits of God

Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Has the seven stars

V1C Jesus Describes the Church and Problem

V 1C: A Name of being alive, but are dead

V 2B: Works Not Perfect Before God

The Protestant Age

...[they] escaped from Rome only to fall eventually into cold, lifeless, formalism – HA Ironside.

While the Protestant ministry is very different from the Romish hierarchy, unfortunately human ordination has done much to becloud a proper conception of the servant's responsibility to the Master – Ironside.

The Great State churches of the Reformation

- German, Dutch, English

The Protestant Age

One of the worst features of the present apostasy is that there are thousands of men occupying the supposedly orthodox pulpits, who would, if they could, destroy everything for which their respective denominations are understood to stand. - Ironside

Vv 2-4 Jesus Exhorts Sardis

Be Watchful

Strengthen the things that remain

Remember how you received and heard

Hold Fast

Repent

1 Thessalonians 2:13

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Vv 2-4 Jesus Exhorts Sardis

“But what shall be done with such persons as live in the church, but are not of it, having a name to live, but are dead? What shall be done with mere professors who are not possessors? What shall become of those who are only outwardly religious but inwardly are in the gall of bitterness? We answer, as good Calvin did once: ‘They shall walk in black, for they are unworthy.’ They shall walk in black – the blackness of God’s destruction. They shall walk in black – the blackness of hopeless despair. They shall walk in black – the blackness of incomparable anguish. They shall walk in black – the blackness of damnation. They shall walk in black for ever, because they were found unworthy.” (Spurgeon – as quoted by Guzik)

V 5 – A Promise of Reward

Clothed in White

Name in the Book of Life

V 5 – A Promise of Reward

The Book of Life

Revelation 20:12

And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

Revelation 20:15

And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

V 5 – A Promise of Reward

5 References to Being Blot Out of The Book of Life

- *Exodus 32:32: Yet now, if You will forgive their sin; but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.*
- *Exodus 32:33: And the Lord said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.”*
- *Psalm 69:28: Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.*
- *Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.*
- *Revelation 22:19: And if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

V 5 – A Promise of Reward

Clothed in White

Name in the Book of Life

Confess His Name before the Father and Angels

Taking it Home

Mark 4:21-23

He said to them, "Is a lamp brought to be put under a basket or under a bed? Is it not to be set on a lampstand? "For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light. "If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.

MEDITATION VERSE

Revelation 3:5

"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels."

BENEDICTION

Revelation 22:20-21

He who testifies to these things says,

“Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen.

*Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of
the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.*