

Review of The Seven Churches – Revelation 2 and 3

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ Nov 20, 2022

Revelation 3:14-22 ESV

²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Introduction and Background

- one of the strangest experiences I had when I was a newer Christian was a discussion I had with the minister of the church I attended while I was a child
- this minister seemed to be speaking like he knew Jesus Christ in his sermons
- but when I sat down and started asking direct questions about Jesus Christ he clearly did not _____ in the historic Jesus
- he claimed that Jesus was not God, He was only a human being, who was a good moral _____

- I took him to several scriptures to try and convince him of the greatness of Jesus and he was not having any of that
- it is illogical to call _____ just a great moral teacher
- look at the claims and actions of Jesus Christ in the gospels!
- when you read about Jesus in the _____ and accept the Bible as God’s Word you never get the impression that Jesus is _____ a good moral teacher
- for instance in the gospel of Matthew Jesus claims that He can forgive sins, something only _____ can do

Matthew 9:2 And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your _____ are forgiven."

- in the gospel of John Jesus claims to be before Abraham

- just in case you do not know who Abraham is, he was on earth many years before Jesus Christ came to earth

John 8:58 Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

- this statement by Jesus is a clear declaration that He has _____ to be God

- the Jews, during the time of Jesus, knew what _____ was saying by this statement and they were upset and attempted to kill Him many times

- clearly, Jesus claimed to be more than just a mere great _____ teacher

- looking at the words of Jesus Christ in the Bible, Jesus can only be one of three things

- He could be a _____ because He is claiming to be God when He is not

- He could be a lunatic because only someone _____ would claim to be God when they are not

- But Jesus is telling the _____ so therefore He is Lord

- in the book of Revelation, Jesus is crystal clear in who _____ is!

- _____ claims to be eternal, to have died and come back to life again

Revelation 2:8 "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and _____ to life.

- Jesus is the first and the last because He is eternal

- Jesus dies for sins and _____ sins by means of His death upon the cross because He is truly Lord!

- Jesus came to life because He was _____ from the dead by the Father

- the book of Revelation is well loved by many people

- but often it is loved for all the _____ reasons

- people love this book because of their fascination with the _____ times

- I often have been asked questions about the book of Revelation by people who want nothing to do with Christianity

- because they want to know about the sensational exciting things that will happen at the end of the world (like the great tribulation)

- the book of Revelation is _____ in apocalyptic style and this brings many challenges to those who are reading this book

- apocalyptic literature focuses upon God's _____, the end times and the hope of heaven

- often this type of literature uses imagery to express _____ about God's Word

- unfortunately, people miss the _____ point about Revelation and forget that Revelation teaches us about the _____ of Jesus Christ

- when I read Revelation I see the greatness and _____ of Jesus Christ

- the book of Revelation never leaves you with the impression that Jesus is just a good moral teacher

- you see that Jesus is a _____ and sovereign Lord who rules over all creation

- praise be to _____ alone!

- the book of Revelation was written by

_____ the apostle

- this is the same John who wrote the gospel of John and 1st, 2nd and 3rd John

- John was the "_____" disciple who was close to the Lord Jesus

- he was so close to the Lord Jesus, that Jesus trusted John to take care of His mother

- John wrote this book while he was enduring persecution because of his _____ ing of Jesus Christ

- John was exiled to the _____ of Patmos which would have been East of the 7 churches that he wrote to in Revelation Revelation 1:9 I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on _____ of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

- John wrote this book to the _____ churches that would be found in what is now modern day _____

- John was commanded by God to write this book to the 7 churches Revelation 1:11 saying, " _____ what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

- although there were 7 different churches in Revelation, there were three _____ of churches that were addressed in the book of Revelation

1) Churches That Were _____ Jesus with Other Religions

- the churches of Ephesus, Pergamum and Thyatira had mixed Christianity with the other

_____ that were in their Roman culture

- for instance, the church at Pergamum, had people who were teaching the _____

teachings of Balaam and the Nicolaitans

- these teachings focused on the worship of false gods and _____ immorality

2) Churches That Were _____

- the church at _____ and Philadelphia were experiencing persecution from the Jewish community and the Roman community

- we know that the Roman state and the Jews did not like Christianity and tried to _____ it out

3) _____ That Were Apathetic

- the churches of Sardis and Laodicea were complacent with the Lord

- the church at Laodicea was called " _____ "

- in Sardis the church had a reputation of being alive but they were _____

- Jesus delivered different messages to each church to exhort, _____ and encourage them in the issues they were facing

- the church that was being persecuted received a much different _____ than the church that was apathetic with the Lord

- in every address to the 7 churches of Revelation there are some _____ elements

1) Church _____ is Addressed - to the angel of the church of _____ write

2) _____ is Described – Jesus Christ is exalted in every address

3) Christ Commends the Church – although not every church is _____

- 4) Christ _____ the Church – not every church is confronted
- 5) Christ _____ the Church – not every church is warned
- 6) Christ _____ the Church – Jesus gives instructions to every church
- 7) Christ Gives Promises to the Church – Jesus Christ gives each church the _____ of eternal life if they are victorious

- we are going to highlight 4 aspects of Christ as revealed in these messages to the churches

- 1) Christ Described
- 2) Warnings of Christ
- 3) Commands of Christ
- 4) Promises of Christ

1) Christ Described

- when _____ your Bible, an amazing exercise you can do is highlight the references to Jesus Christ
- then you can _____ what that verse says about the Lord Jesus Christ
- you can do this with all of the New Testament
- you will see and learn much about the _____ of Jesus Christ
- in Revelation 2-3 we see 4 amazing _____ about the Lord Jesus

a) Jesus is the _____-Knowing Lord

- there are many people who live their lives _____ reference to Jesus Christ
- although they might embrace a god, that god is the last thing on their _____ except when things get rough
- these people _____ that that Lord sees what they do and they do not think the Lord cares what they do
- in Revelation 2-3, Jesus describes Himself as a Lord who _____ all things

- Jesus walks among the 7 golden _____ stands which are the 7 churches (Revelation 2:1)

- since Jesus walks among the 7 churches, Jesus _____ what is going on in these churches

- that is why Jesus can say 8 times that “He knows”

Revelation 2:2 "I know your _____, your toil and your patient endurance

Revelation 2:3 I know you are enduring patiently

Revelation 2:9 "I know your tribulation and your _____

Revelation 2:13 "I know where you dwell

- in each church, Jesus knows exactly what is going on and gives _____ to each church in relation to how they are doing

- that is why Jesus can confidently say this about _____:

Revelation 2:23 and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who _____ mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works.

b) Jesus Christ is the Sovereign Lord

- Jesus declares Himself to be the Lord who _____ over the earth and is all powerful

- Jesus holds the 7 angels in His _____ (Revelation 2:1; 3:1)

- Jesus has these angels in His hands which means that Jesus is in _____ over these 7 angels of the churches

- in Revelation 2:18 Jesus is described as having feet of burnished bronze which means that Jesus is _____, strong and majestic

c) Jesus is the Holy Lord who Will _____
Sin

- Jesus describes Himself as a holy God who _____ sin and warns of the consequences of sin
- in Revelation 2:4-5, Jesus confronts the Ephesian church and _____ them that He will remove their lampstand
- in Revelation 2:14-16, Jesus will not tolerate the sin of the church of Pergamum
- in Revelation 2:20, Jesus says that He is against the sin of the church of Thyatira
- in Revelation 3:2-3, Jesus is _____ and will come against the church Sardis if they do not repent
- in Revelation 3:7, Jesus describes Himself as the Holy _____
- in Revelation 3:9-11, Jesus is judge and is _____ soon
- in Revelation 3:16, Jesus will _____ the Laodiceans out of His mouth because they are lukewarm

d) Jesus is Good _____

- Jesus declares His good news to the church at Smyrna
- Revelation 2:8 "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.
- the good news is....Jesus has died and has come to life
- this points us to His _____ of the Cross and His resurrection
- Jesus died, and in His death He took upon the _____ for sin
- Jesus died as a _____ for our sin
- Jesus _____ the punishment for sin in place of the people of God

Galatians 3:13 Christ _____ us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us-- for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

- Jesus _____ the curse of the law, which is the punishment of God for sin on the Cross so that we can experience forgiveness for sin
- but Jesus did not stay _____, the Father raised His son from the dead
- the act of God raising Jesus from the dead seals the assurance of the believer's _____ of the resurrection
- because Jesus has been raised, those who are in Jesus Christ will be _____ from the dead to everlasting life as we see in Christ's promises to the church

2) Warnings of Christ

- in Revelation 2:4-5, the church of Ephesus had _____ their first love
- Jesus calls them to _____ two times
- they had lost their love for the Lord and Jesus calls them to _____ their mind about the Lord
- Jesus warns them that if they do not repent the Lord will _____ His presence from the Ephesian church
- in Revelation 2:12-17, the Pergamum church had people who held to the _____ of the Nicolaitins and Balaam
- Jesus calls this church to repent or He will come _____ them with the sword of His mouth
- in Revelation 2:20-23, the church at Thyatira had a person named Jezebel who was teaching the church to engage in idolatry and _____ immorality

- the Lord calls this church to _____
and to return to the Lord

3) Commands of Christ

a) repent

- the main command that Jesus gives these churches, that are either mixing Jesus with other religions or have been apathetic, is that they must _____
- repentance means to change your

- repentance means that you acknowledge that your sin has _____ a holy God
- this means that you have sorrow for your sin and you have _____ for your sin
- then you turn from your sin and pursue the joy of the Lord _____ in Jesus Christ

- Hosea speaks about this repentance
Hosea 12:6 "So you, by the help of your God, _____, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God."

b) hear the Word of God

- how does every address to the 7 churches end?
- with a call to _____ the Word of God

Revelation 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

- hearing in the Biblical sense has more to do with just hearing what is said and _____ what is said
- hearing in the Bible means that you take the Word of God and then you _____ to God by obeying His Word
- the 7 churches were to _____ to what the Lord says in Revelation and so are we!

4) Promises of Christ

- the _____ of Jesus Christ that were given to these 7 churches are amazing
- it would be worth your while to _____ these truths over and over again
- it is also important to note that the promises that are given in Revelation 2-3 to the 7 churches are also talked about in Revelation _____-22

- those who conquer, or are _____, are given these 7 promises

a) Revelation 2:7 – the one who conquers will eat from the _____ of life in the paradise of God

b) Revelation 2:11 – the one who conquers will not be hurt by the 2nd _____
- this means that they will not enter into judgment with God

c) Revelation 2:17 – the one who conquers will be given three things: the hidden manna, white stone, and a new _____

- these gifts symbolize the cleansing from sin that Christ offers and the adoption into the _____ of God

d) Revelation 2:26-28 – the one who conquers will be given authority over the nations and they will rule with Christ

- not only will the believer experience the hope of heaven but they will _____ with Jesus Christ in His heavenly kingdom for eternity

e) Revelation 3:5 – the one who conquers, their name will not be blotted out from the _____ of life

f) Revelation 3:12 – the one who conquers will be a pillar in the temple of God

- this means that they will be a permanent fixture in God's _____ home

g) Revelation 3:21 – the one who conquers will reign in _____ with Jesus Christ and the Father

- all of these promises speak to the blessings of the _____ of heaven

Revelation 21:3-6 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the _____ place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor _____, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." 5 And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Application

1) See the Beauty of Christ

- the book of Revelation does speak about the events that will happen in the last _____

- the book of Revelation does speak about God's judgment upon those who _____

Jesus Christ

- but we sometimes forget that a lot of the book of Revelation is about the _____ of Christ

- see how the angels worship Jesus Christ because of His greatness and _____

- like I suggested earlier, when we come to the _____ it is important to pay attention to how Jesus Christ is described

- in Revelation you will, for sure, see the _____ of Christ

- you see the holiness of Jesus Christ

- Jesus is the _____ (Revelation 3:7)

- hear how people worship Jesus because He is _____

Revelation 6:10 They cried out with a loud voice: "Lord, the One who is holy and true, how long until You judge and avenge our _____ from those who live on the earth?"

- you see the grace of Jesus Christ because He is the one who had died in _____ of sinners in Revelation 2:8

- Hear how the Angels worship Jesus who is gracious

Revelation 5:9-10 And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its _____, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

- Jesus Christ gives His people great and precious _____

- hear how people worship Jesus

Revelation 7:15-17 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will _____ away every tear from their eyes."

- we ought to be a people who are _____ to the worship of Christ

- we are commanded to worship the Lord and gather each Sunday but we are also commanded to _____ lives of worship every day

Romans 12:1-2 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to _____ your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

- if Jesus has _____ you, then you are to live your life in sacrifice for Jesus Christ
- this means that you see your life as Christ's life and you do what He _____

- if you are outside of Jesus Christ look at the beauty of Jesus Christ in Revelation
- _____ is Holy and you are not
- Jesus is _____, He died and came to life again so that you can experience His grace
- _____, which means leaving your sin, and come to Jesus Christ
- cry _____ to Jesus Christ so that he can give you mercy, because we all rightly deserve judgment

2) Ponder the Hope of Christ

- life is short as the Psalms declares
Psalm 62:9 Those of low estate are but a _____; those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

- Jesus is coming _____ as Revelation declares

Revelation 22:7 "And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

Revelation 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

Revelation 22:20 He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
_____. Come, Lord Jesus!

- because life is short and Jesus is coming soon, we ought to live our _____ in wisdom according to God's Word

- certainly as a Christian, you must know that we will spend _____ time in heaven then we will ever spend on earth

- but as we live out our days, often heaven is the _____ thing on our minds

- we as Christians sometimes live without reference to God's _____ gift to us
- the promises in Revelation are amazing and they ought to _____ every area of our lives

- we will eat from the _____ of life – we will experience eternal life

- in Christ we will not be hurt by the _____ death, which is the judgment of God

- we are _____ from sin's consequences and have fellowship with God
- not only will we be in heaven but we will _____ with Christ in heaven

- it is amazing that Jesus mentions this two times in the _____ of Revelation

- as a Christian we will face _____ in this life but we can praise the Lord for His grace and thank the Lord for His _____

- in the midst of trials we can look forward to eternal _____ with God, away from sin and _____

- but the biggest blessing is that we will see and _____ God unhindered from sin

Coming UP...

Nov 27 Guest – Luke Egli Ezekiel 33:10-20
Advent 1 - Hope

Dec 4 The Christmas Message in the Four Gospels: MATTHEW
Advent 2 – Peace
Christmas Fellowship Luncheon



Revelation 3:11-13

I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, 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 from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Review of The Seven Churches – Revelation 2 and 3

Introduction and Background

- 7 churches, but three types, were addressed
 - 1) Churches That Were Mixing Jesus with Other Religions
 - 2) Churches That Were Persecuted
 - 3) Churches That Were Apathetic

1) Christ Described

- a) Jesus is the All-Knowing Lord
- b) Jesus Christ is the Sovereign Lord
- c) Jesus is the Holy Lord who Will Punish Sin
- d) Jesus is Good News

2) Warnings of Christ

3) Commands of Christ

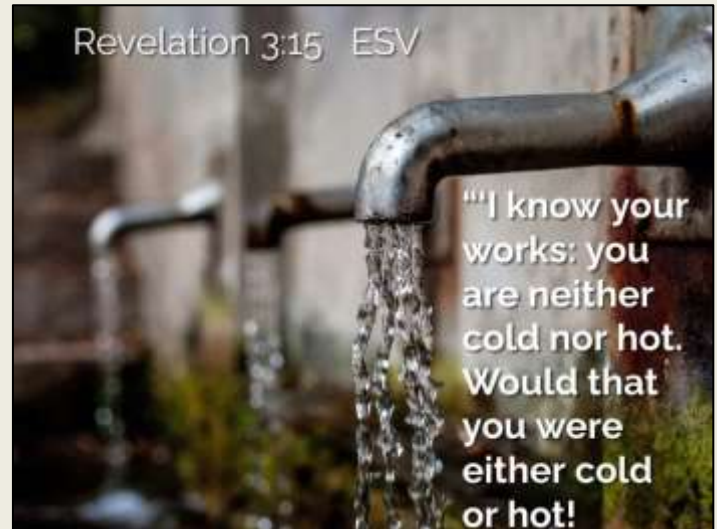
- a) repent
- b) hear the Word of God

4) Promises of Christ

- the victorious are given these 7 promises
 - a) Revelation 2:7 –will eat from the tree of life
 - b) Revelation 2:11 –will not be hurt by the 2nd death
 - c) Revelation 2:17 –will be given the hidden manna, white stone, and a new name
 - d) Revelation 2:26-28 – will be given will rule with Christ
 - e) Revelation 3:5 – name will not be blotted out from the book of life
 - f) Revelation 3:12 – will be a pillar in the temple of God
 - g) Revelation 3:21 – will reign in heaven with Jesus Christ and the Father

Application

- 1) See the Beauty of Christ
- 2) Ponder the Hope of Christ





**HE WHO
HAS AN
EAR**

let him hear what
the Spirit says to
the Churches

Revelation 2:29

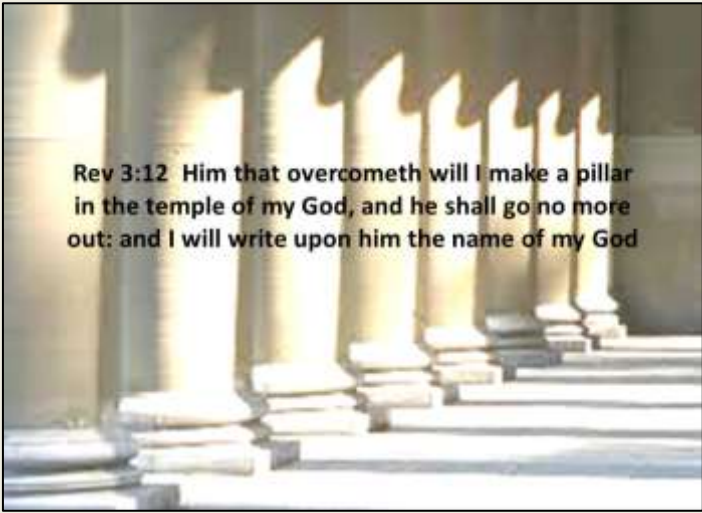
Knowing-Jesus.com



**BEHOLD,
I AM COMING SOON,
BRINGING MY REWARD WITH ME.
TO REPAY
EACH ONE
FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE.**

REVELATION 22:12

Faithlife



Rev 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar
in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more
out: and I will write upon him the name of my God



**THE
SHARP
TWO-EDGED
SWORD
of JESUS
CHRIST**

Revelation 2:12-17



The one who is victorious will,
like them, be dressed in white.
I will never blot out the name
of that person from the book of life,
but will acknowledge that name
before my Father and his angels.

Revelation 3:5

DailyVerses.com