

SARDIS: THE CHURCH THAT WAS DEAD & DYING
(Revelation 2:18-29)

I. The THINGS Which You HAVE SEEN (Revelation 1)

II. The THINGS Which ARE (Revelation 2-3)

A. Ephesus: The Church With The Fatal Flaw (2:1-7)—they left their first love

B. Smyrna: The Suffering Church (2:8-11)—they were to rejoice in their suffering for Christ

C. Pergamos: The Church Wedded With the World (2:12-17)—they compromised their testimony

D. Thyatira: The Church that Tolerated False Teaching (2:18-29)

E. Sardis: The Church that was _____ & _____ (3:1-6)

1. The **Church** & its significance: (3:1) "...to the angel of the Church at Sardis write..."

2. The **Correspondent** & His words: (3:2-3) "Write these things says," the glorified Christ!

* How is the Correspondent described?

a. *As He who has the* _____.

- What is this a reference to? (Revelation 4:5; 5:6; Isaiah 11:2-5)

Principle: The Holy Spirit's ministry is *essential* to the spiritual vitality & guidance of every _____ as well as the local _____ today!

b. *As He who holds the* _____ ... (cf 1:20)

3. The **Commendations** to this church as a whole are: _____!

4. The **Criticism:**

a. "*you have a name that you live by, but you are* _____"! (3:1c)

- How should this be understood?

b. "*I have found your works* _____ *before God*" (3:2c)

Point to remember: The spiritual condition of every believer & church is fully _____ to the omniscient Christ, & no one is exempt from becoming a Sardis-like & sliding into a _____ existence to God & His will!

5. The **Commands needed for Correction** were to...

- a. _____ spiritually speaking.... “Be _____!”
- b. _____ the remnant there.... “_____ *the things that remain!*”
- c. Remember _____.... “*remember therefore how you have received & heard!*”
- d. _____ the _____ ... “_____ to it!”
- e. Have a decisive _____ of mind... “_____ of your deadness”!

6. The **Consequences** they needed to avoid were two

- a. A severe warning to wake up & _____... “*for _____ you will not...*”
- b. Christ would come upon them as a _____, indicating that He would come when they _____ it

7. The **Commendation** concerning the *remnant* there (3:4)

- a. Christ *commends* a few at Sardis for not _____ their garments, which speaks of their on going practical _____ in their Christian life!
- b. Christ promises them special _____ in eternity... “*they shall walk with Me in _____*”

- What is the reason for this recognition?

8. The **Concluding Encouragements** to consider.

- a. these promises are made to the _____, meaning to the _____ in Christ (1 John 5:4-5)
- Why is this encouragement made to the *overcomer* in Christ?
- b. Christ gives three promises that are _____ to the believer in Christ:
 - 1) the believer shall be _____ in white garments, indicating the _____ of Christ!
 - 2) the believer will _____ be blotted out of the book of life, indicating believers are _____ in Christ!
- What do we know about the Book of Life?

3) Christ leaves the believer with a positive _____ ... “*I will _____ his name before My Father & His angels*”

c. His **Closing Comment** (3:6)... “He who has an ear, let him _____ what the Spirit is saying to the churches”