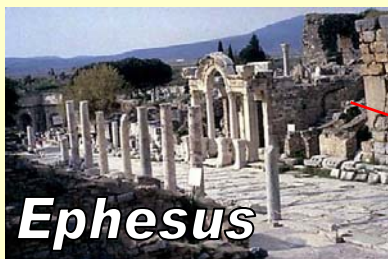


Revelation 2

Letters to 7 Churches

The Church then, and the Church now. The Church through the ages. A message for me.



Chapter 2 contains the first 4 of 7 letters.

	Ephesus 2:1-7	Smyrna 2:8-11	Pergamum 2:12-17	Thyatira 2:18-29
Symbolic Church Age	Apostolic Church 30-100 AD	Persecuted Church (age of Martyrs) 100-312 AD	State Church (Constantine to 1st Pope) 313-590 AD	Established Church (1st Pope to Reformation) 590-1517 AD
Speaker	"He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands."	"The First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life."	"He who has the sharp two-edged sword."	"the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass."
Praise	Works, labor, patience, non-toleration of evil, tested false teachers, perseverance, hated Nicolaitans	Works, perseverance (He knew their suffering, poverty, Jewish persecution (Synagogue of Satan!))	Works, steadfastness, held to faith (He knew where they lived, Satan's throne)	More works, love, service, faith
Problems	Left first love	NONE!	False teachers in their midst (Balaamites and Nicolaitans)	Toleration of False teachers who lead others into sin (Jezebel)
Counsel or Warning	Remember from where you have fallen; repent; do first works (heart!) OR ELSE I will come quickly and remove your lampstand...	Don't be afraid, be faithful to death (would be imprisoned soon)	Repent OR ELSE He will fight them (those spreading false teachings, not whole church) with Sword of His mouth	Lord's problem with the "Jezebels" and her follows, not entire church. He would not "burden them" further, but hold fast what they have until He comes. Gave time for "Jezebel" to repent, but didn't want to, so will cast her on a bed of suffering, and her followers and kill her "children." They would ALL be judged on their "works" (condition of heart!)
Reward to Overcomer	Eat of the tree of life in Paradise (of God, with Him), (eternal life in Paradise, comparable to Garden of Eden)	Crown of life, not hurt by second death (saved from eternal separation from God)	Hidden manna to eat, white stone with unique name known only to holder and Jesus (eternal sustenance, acquittal, free pass to heaven, unique love from God)	Power over the nations, and the morning star (will reign with Him in Millennium)
Problem in a nutshell	No passion for Jesus , agape love missing	NONE	False doctrines , not testing teachers, not remaining separate from the world	Compromise, toleration of false teachers, not remaining separate from world