

Seven Churches of Revelation

Church	Nickname	Praise	Rebuke	Christ Picture	Characteristics	Direction	Reward
Ephesus 2:1-7	The Steadfast	Hard work, not quitting, enduring, persevering	Walked away from first love	Present among the churches	It's all too easy to be both orthodox and active -and unloving. But without an intense and vital love any church will soon also be without light (v. 5). Artemis' temple, the seven wonders, the influential capital city of Asia Minor	Turn back to first love	Invitation to dinner at a tree of life banquet
Smyrna 2:8-11	The Persecuted	Pain & poverty	No rebuke	He who died is alive again	This city of 200,000 was renowned for its wealth and contribution to the sciences and medicine. It was also a center of emperor worship, having been granted the right in AD 23 to build the first temple honoring Tiberius. Each citizen was obligated to burn incense to the "god" Caesar annually and was then issued a certificate of compliance. Christians refused to burn Incense and say "Caesar is Lord." As a result, they suffered intensely.	Don't quit even if it costs your life Remain faithful Fear nothing	The crown of life
Pergamum 2:12-17	The Morally Compromised	Boldly living in Christ's name Never once denied Him	Indulge in idolatry & sexuality	Sharp double edged sword	Pergamum too was a center of emperor worship, but also worship of Zeus and Aeseleplus: truly "Satan's throne."	Don't give in Repent from evil ways	Sacred manna to every conqueror A clear smooth stone with a new name
Thyatira 2:18-29	The Doctrinally Compromised	Love faith service persistence	Allow misleading prophet to teach sin and immorality	Eyes of fire feet of bronze	This inland city was a center of trade in textiles and leather. The church there is criticized for tolerating a woman, symbolically named Jezebel, who promoted false teaching and also immorality.	Hold on to truth and get a reward X-ray every motive	Conquerors will rule the nations Iron scepters
Sardis 3:1-6	The Counterfeit	A few followers that haven't ruined themselves	Reputation for work, but busywork only	Holding the seven spirits of God in one hand and the seven stars in the other	Sardis lay in an important river valley and was both a trade and military center. Although its greatest significance lay in the past, and in a sense the city was dying, it remained prosperous for some two centuries into the Christian era.	Grasp the message you heard and turn back to God	Conquerors will March in the victory parade, their names written in the book of life, presented to the father and the angels one by one
Philadelphia 3:7-13	The Obedient	Not denying but keeping God's word in passionate patience	No rebuke	Holds the key of David (messianic authority)	This was an important fortress city on a major highway and an Imperial post road. Eusebius reports that the church was led in the first half of the 2nd century by a gifted prophetess named Ammia and prospered under her leadership.	Hold tight to what they have	Kept safe in time of testing; each made a pillar in the sanctuary of God, a position of honor with the name of God written on them
Laodicea 3:14-22	The Materialistic	The people He loves He calls to account	Lukewarm church, Wealthy society but poor spiritually	Ruler of creation	This city was famous for wealth and medicines, particularly an eye ointment. The Christians of this city took pride in their material well-being, without seeing their spiritual poverty. Jesus warns these believers to spend their funds on the true riches Christ provides.	Turn to God for good things Accept His discipline, repent and follow God	Conquerors will sit along side Him at the head table a place of honor