

The 7 Churches – Part 4

8/31/24

- Today – Opportunity to give a Bible study
 - Today – Continuing with a 7-part series – about the 7 churches in Revelation 2 & 3
 - Title – The 7 Churches – Part 4
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- Ephesus is mentioned in the Bible much more than the other churches

Ephesus	17 times
Smyrna	2 times – (both times in Revelation)
Pergamos	2 times – (both times in Revelation)
Thyatira	4 times – (3 times in Revelation)
Sardis	3 times – (all times in Revelation)
Philadelphia	2 times – (both times in Revelation)
Laodicea	6 times – (1 time in Revelation)
Laodiceans	2 times – (1 time in Revelation)

- Historical reminder

Holman Bible Dictionary (page 1345) – “Though never a magnificent city, Thyatira was the center of a number of trade guilds which used the natural resources of the area to make it a very profitable city . . . Lydia was a native of Thyatira. She probably was a member of a guild there which dealt with purple dye.”

Holman Bible Dictionary (page 795) – “Jezebel’s name became so associated with wickedness, that the false prophetess in the church at Thyatira was labeled ‘Jezebel’.”

Acts 16:12	Paul arrived in Philippi – (where he met Lydia in verse 14)
14	Paul said – Lydia heard us (in Philippi) and worshiped God – she was a seller of purple (originally) from the city of Thyatira – (reportedly, Thyatira was 300 miles from Philippi)
15	Lydia was baptized – invited Paul and his traveling party to stay with her
40	after the escape from prison & Paul asserting his civilian rights.....
	· They recovered from their stressful trials – at Lydia’s house
	· They celebrated – at Lydia’s house

1. Characteristics – praise and correction

Rev. 2:18	these things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and
	His feet like fine brass
19	praise

- I know your works
 - I know your love
 - I know your service
 - I know your faith
 - I know your patience
 - As for your works, the last are more than the first
(Revelation 22:11)
- Rev. 2:20 correction – nevertheless, I have a few things against you
- You allow that woman Jezebel (who calls herself a prophetess) to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols
 - Remember
 - Acts 15:20 – abstain from things polluted by idols
 - 1 Cor. 8:1-13 – don't wound a weak brother
 - 1 Cor. 10:25-33 – eating items sold in meat market?
 - Rev. 2:14 – eating things sacrificed to idols
- 21-23 reminder – of repentance
- I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent
 - Indeed, I will cast her into a sick bed, and those who commit adultery with her into tribulation – unless they repent of their deeds – I will kill her children with death
 - And all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts – and I will give to each one of you according to your works
- 24 encouraging statement – “I will put on you no other burden”
- 25 important advice – “But hold fast what you have until I come”
2. Future reward – (future blessing)
- Rev. 2:26 he who overcomes & keeps My works until the end = (2 blessings)
- 26-27 · I will give him power over the nations
- power – “exousia” (#1849) – authority, power, the right to govern
 - Psalm 2:9 – “He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels”
 - as I also have received from My Father
 - Luke 4:18-19 – to help the poor & brokenhearted
 - Rev. 19:15 – to subdue the enemy
- 28 · and I will give Him the morning star – (the morning star precedes the rising of the sun – a part in the brightest and most glorious empire)