

THE SEVEN



GOLDEN CANDLESTICKS

BY TIMOTHY II

THE SEVEN GOLDEN CANDLESTICKS

A Book for Leaders in the Body of Christ

BY TIMOTHY II

Copyright © 1988 By Timothy II Revised 1992 2002 Web Site: www.Timothy2.org

THE SEVEN
GOLDEN
CANDLESTICKS

ARE.....

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

REVELATION 1:20

TIMOTHY II

TIMOTHY II TESTIMONY

In 1967, I was in the middle of my career as a "Head Football Coach" in a High School in Southern California.

After having an Undefeated Championship Team during the regular season, and being selected "Orange County Coach of the Year", my wife's younger sister was killed in an automobile accident. She was survived by her husband and four children.

This sudden shock in the middle of my most exciting coaching year, led my wife and I to ask the Lord into our lives in a small church in Anaheim.

This in itself would be the conclusion of my testimony, if it were not for God's sovereign intervention.

In 1985, after thirty years of coaching football and winning numerous awards in High School and College coaching, I had a heart attack.

Since 1967, I had been going to Church regularly, attending Bible studies, tithing and reading the Bible daily.

The only problems I had, were alcohol and ego. It started out with the usual occasional use of alcohol but soon developed into daily use.

When I entered the hospital in 1985, I passed all the physical exams and tests I was given. The doctors concluded that I had had a slight heart attack but it was over and I was fine.

However, as I was preparing to go home and my wife was coming to pick me up, I had a "ventricular fibrillation" attack in the hospital.

It was at this time that I had a real "Death Experience" as well as an "Out of Body Experience".

As I fell on the hospital bed, I left my body and went immediately out of this world, and into "Outer Darkness". I went 'floating' on my back into a black void with no sound, in complete blackness, and I knew I was totally separated from God for eternity.

(Job 10:21, 22 & Jude 13)

With "weeping and gnashing of teeth", I cried out to the Lord and said, "I haven't done anything for you Lord, please give me another chance". I also said, "My wife and family wasn't expecting me to die, what will happen to them"?

(Matthew 8:12 22:13 25:30)

I continued to float in "Outer Darkness", weeping and crying out to the Lord.

Just as suddenly as I began 'floating' into "Outer Darkness", I 'floated' back into the hospital room and into my body. I rose up in my body like it was filling up from the bottom to the top and my eyes opened up in front of many doctors and nurses.

After resting about four hours from this experience, I was lying in my bed and I opened up my Bible to Second Timothy. It was at this time that the Lord spoke to me audibly. He said, "My son Timothy, If you don't do My Will, I will remove you from this earth." (Jeremiah 28:15, 16).

I said, "I will Lord".

He then said He named me "Timothy" so that all the work that I do for Him, would be done in this name. This way, my ego would not get in the way and I would know it was Him doing the work and not me.

He told me my work is in 2 Timothy 2:2 "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also".

Although this was Paul talking to Timothy, the Lord said this would be Him talking to me. Thus I have taken the name "Timothy II".

Some of the things the Lord told Timothy II, was to tell the "Body of Christ" that "He is coming soon, very soon, sooner than you think". He told me that the "Body of Christ", in addition to saving souls, must Repent from its dead works, backslidden conditions, and to restore the divided body from envy, strife, etc., and to also restore Christian marriages.

After this experience was over, the Lord told me to have my sister, who is in the ministry, come and lay hands on me to receive the "Filling of the Holy Spirit", to give me the 'Power' to do His work. This she did. (Acts 1:5, 8 Acts 8:17)

Later on, the doctors found out through an angiogram, that my left coronary artery was ninety-five percent blocked and I had to have an "angioplasty" to clear it. The Lord healed me through this method and I have been fine since.

The Lord completely delivered me from alcohol and also took away the desire for it.

Since 1985, the Lord has Called and trained myself and my wife Lavona, along with "The Team" which He has raised, to minister with Apostles, and to Prophets, Pastors, Priests, Evangelists and Church Leaders. He has used us to love, encourage, build up, edify, and to rebuke when necessary, these wonderful men and women of God.

God is judging His Church today, for judgment "must begin" at the "House of God". (1 Peter 4:17).

This is being done in the "spirit of Elijah". (Malachi 4:5, 6 Luke 1:17 Luke 3:4).

The judgment is based on Revelation 2 & 3.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.

(Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29 3:6, 13, 22).

AMEN!

FOREWORD:

In 1988, Timothy II went on a retreat with about eighty men from the “Church of the Coastland” in Huntington Beach, California. We went to a barren desert place south of Palm Springs.

After fasting about two days, each of us went to a far off place by ourselves, to be alone and to seek the “Will of God” in our lives.

It was here that the Lord spoke to Timothy II for almost two hours, as He outlined “His plan” for “His Work”.

At the conclusion of His message, the Lord said He would confirm the plan by my reading “The Seven Golden Candlesticks”, for in them is the key.

With this, the Lord told me to close the book in which I was writing, and not to open it or share with anyone the contents, until I shared it at home with my wife Lavona. This I did.

Although I wasn’t sure what the Lord meant about “The Seven Golden Candlesticks”, later on when reading about them in the Book of Revelation, I realized what the Lord was telling Timothy II.

“The Seven Golden Candlesticks” *are* the seven types of Churches that are represented in the “Body of Christ” today. Jesus is walking amongst these Churches, even though He may be on the outside, as in the Church in Laodicea.

The Lord said that He is sending Timothy II and “The Team” to the Churches in Asia, the United States and around the world, to help prepare them for “His Soon Coming”.

This preparation will come through the comparison of the Seven Churches in Revelation with His Churches of today.

If Jesus is not amongst some ‘so called’ Churches, then we are to avoid them. They are not of Him!

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.

TIMOTHY II

Isa 40:3

3 The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Mal 3:1

1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple.....

All scriptures quoted are from the King James Version of the Bible.

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

(Rev. 1, 2, & 3)

TO THE PASTORS / PRIESTS OF THE CHURCHES

INTRODUCTION:

This message has been gathered together over a period of nearly two years. The Lord had Timothy II read these three chapters of the Bible over and over again and taught him strictly through the Holy Spirit. (1 John 2:27)

The “Seven Golden Candlesticks” which represent the “Seven Churches”, has its basis in the “Golden Candlestick” that is represented in the Old Testament.

Exod 25:31-40

31 **And thou shalt make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made:** his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same.

32 And six branches shall come out of the sides of it; three branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and three branches of the candlestick out of the other side:

33 Three bowls made like unto almonds, with a knop and a flower in one branch; and three bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a knop and a flower: so in the six branches that come out of the candlestick.

34 And in the candlestick shall be four bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers.

35 And there shall be a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, and a knop under two branches of the same, according to the six branches that proceed out of the candlestick.

36 Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: **all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold.**

37 **And thou shalt make the seven lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it.**

38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuffdishes thereof, shall be of pure gold.

39 Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels.

40 **And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount.** (Hebrews 8:5)

The “Golden Candlestick” which was made for the sanctuary (tabernacle), had a shaft and six branches which all had a lamp on them totaling “Seven Lamps”.

I believe each lamp represents an “Attribute of the Holy Spirit”, so that the “Seven Attributes of the Holy Spirit” are represented on each Candlestick.

We Christians are the ‘light’ coming out of the lamps. We are being fed by oil, which is pure oil that has been beaten for the light, to cause the lamp to burn always. (Ex. 27:20)

That oil represents Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. As long as the beaten oil flows through the lamp, the light will remain on.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the Pastors/Priests.

Revelation 1

Rev 1:1

1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Here, the message is sent by Jesus Christ Himself, and then given to His servants so that it may be passed on.

Rev 1:2-3

2 Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.

3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Notice that it says here, “he that readeth” and “hears the words of this prophecy”.

The Lord had Timothy II read these chapters over and over again for many months; He also had him listen to tapes of Revelation 1, 2, and 3 over and over again. Hearing the word can sometimes give us different points of emphasis as when we read the word.

The most important point of emphasis is that we must “keep” the things that are written here, because the time is at hand and “Jesus is coming soon”.

It says in.....

Rev 22:16

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Therefore, it is Jesus who is sending this message to you, through the Holy Spirit.

This message is a message for the Churches.

The third statement confirms who is giving this message.

Rev 1:4

4 John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

This Scripture identifies “God the Father”, the first Person of the Godhead. The ‘Seven Spirits’ which are before His throne is the “Holy Spirit”, expressing Himself in ‘Seven different Attributes’.

This is the 'Third Person' of the Godhead.

These 'Seven Spirits' are the "Seven Attributes" of the 'Holy Spirit' that God has given to us to function as strong individual Christians; so that we have no need of man's philosophy, psychology, religion or traditions. (Colossians 2:8-10)

We have this ability to function as strong Christians through the 'completeness' and 'fullness' of God, through the "Fullness of the Holy Spirit", which is available to us when God the Holy Spirit enters into us at Salvation.

(For more information on the "Seven Spirits of God", please ask for the book : "The Seven Spirits of God" by Timothy II & the Tract on "The Fullness of the Holy Spirit".)

Rev 1:5

5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

This Scripture reveals the 'Second Person' of the Godhead, "Jesus Christ".

Rev 1:6

6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Who has made us (the Body of Christ), Kings and Priests to "God the Father".

Rev 1:7-8

7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen.

8 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

This description of Jesus, is the same description as the Father in verse 4.

Rev 1:9

9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

We are going to have ‘tribulation’ anytime we have a church, or do the work of the Lord; so expect it, and know that it is working patience within us. (Romans 5:3 Acts 14:22)

Rev 1:10-11

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

The Lord has shown Timothy II that these “Seven Churches” represent the Churches of today. Although this message was written to a specific area, (Asia), it is to be given to the Churches of America, as well as the rest of the world. This message is for today, a prophecy being sent forth to you, the Pastors/Priests. Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches!

Rev 1:12

12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

The “Seven Golden Candlesticks” *are* the “Seven Churches”.

God revealed to Timothy II, when he was on that retreat in the desert, that there was the ‘mystery’ of the “Seven Golden Candlesticks”, and in them was the ‘key’.

What is that mystery?

Rev 1:13

13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

The Lord told Timothy II that the ‘mystery’ of the “Seven Golden Candlesticks” is that they are the “Seven Churches”, and they represent the Churches of today. Jesus is in the midst of those Churches, which is the ‘key’!

What the Lord is saying to you Pastors/Priests, is that if Jesus is in the midst of your Church, you should recognize the characteristics of your Church in one or more of these “Seven Churches”.

By comparing your Church with these “Seven Churches”, you can reveal any shortcomings you may have, and do whatever is necessary to restore it.

If Jesus is not in the midst of your Church, then you are the Church of the “synagogue of Satan”; therefore, God will not be working in your Church. God will only work in the Churches that He is in the midst of. However, some of those that are in the “synagogue of Satan” will be pulled out by God, and ‘saved’. (Rev. 3:9 Jude 22, 23)

Rev 1:14

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow;

I believe this is a revelation of Jesus Christ, with “His hair white as wool and white as snow”.

We read in.....

Isa 1:18

18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

That “white hair” on top of Jesus’ head is representative of the price that He paid for our sins. Although our sins were as scarlet, they turned ‘white as snow’, though they were as crimson, they are like ‘wool’. That is the head of Jesus Christ who took upon Himself all the sins of the world.

It continues in Revelation 1:14.....

Rev 1:14

14and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

The fire that is in the eyes of Jesus is the Holy Spirit.

As it says in.....

Rev 5:6

6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

So the “Seven Spirits of God” have been sent forth throughout the earth, which are the eyes of Jesus, and are represented here as eyes that are as a flame of fire.

(See also Daniel 10:6 Rev. 4:5 Zechariah 3:9 4:10)

Rev 1:15

15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

In the Sanctuary of the Old Testament, there was a brazen altar on which sacrifices were made unto God to cleanse the people of their sin. (Ex. 27:1, 2) I believe the brass feet of Jesus represent that altar. He has paid the price for our sins, once and for all, and we no longer need to sacrifice animals.

The Voice of the Lord is powerful: See (Psalms 29:3-10 93:4 Ezekiel 43:2 Rev. 14:2)

Rev 1:16

16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

It says, “In His right hand are Seven Stars”.

In verse 20, it says that the “Seven Stars” are the ‘angels’ of the “Seven Churches”. The word ‘angel’ here in the Greek is “Aggelos”. This means a ‘messenger’ or an ‘angel’.

What the Lord is saying to you Pastors/Priests is that you are the “Stars” of the Churches, and God has you in His right hand. That’s an awesome position, being in the right hand of God. Think about it!

It continues in Rev. 1:16, “Out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword:”

It says in.....

Heb 4:12

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The “Word of God” here is “Logos” in the Greek. See (John 1:1 Rev. 19:13)

I believe this means that the “Logos” word of God is Jesus, and the “two-edged sword” in His mouth is able to discern the thoughts and intents of our hearts.

So as you do your work as a Pastor or Priest, you’re in Jesus’ right hand, very close to the sword of His mouth. That “two-edged sword” in His mouth is able to separate the thoughts and intents of your heart.

Again, you are in an awesome position with great responsibility, and God wants you to hear what He is saying.

Rev 1:17

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

It is difficult to stand up when you are in the presence of the Living God! Is His presence in your Church?

Rev 1:18-19

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell (Hades) and of death.

19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

As the Lord gave this message to Timothy II. He said, “write these things down”. The results being this book. Now, with the opportunity of tapes, cassettes, and CD’s, this word is something that we can hear, as well as read.

Rev 1:20

20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

In conclusion of Chapter 1: The “Seven Stars” are you, the Pastors/ Priests, and the “Seven Golden Candlesticks” are the “Seven Churches” of today. What Jesus is saying to you Pastors/ Priests, through the Holy Spirit, is that all or some of the characteristics of your Church should be recognizable in the Churches of Chapter 2 & 3. As we get into the message of Chapter 2 & 3, be willing to analyze where your Church is, where you are in your walk with the Lord, and what are the thoughts and intents of your heart with the work that you are doing.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying unto the Churches.

	EPHESUS	SMYRNA	PERGAMOS
To the Angel / Messenger Mal 2:7 Priest/Pas.	1. Unto the angel.....write;	Unto the angel.....write;	Unto the angel.....write;
Who's speaking?	2. He that holds the Seven Stars in His right hand, who walketh in the midst of the Seven Golden Candlesticks;	These things saith the First and the Last, which was dead, and is alive;	These things saith He which hath the sharp sword with two edges;
Works:	3. I know thy works.....	I know thy works.....	I know thy works.....
They are:	4. Thy labor, thy patience, can't bear those which are evil, tried those which say they are apostles and are not, and found them liars: hast borne and has patience, labored for My name's sake, has not fainted, and thou hates the deeds of the Nicolaitans.	Tribulation and poverty, Blasphemy of those which say they are Jews and are not, but are of the Synagogue of Satan.	You dwell where Satan's seat is, and hold fast My name, and not denied My faith, even when My martyr Antipas was slain among you where Satan dwelleth.
The Problem:	5. Thou hast left thy first love.	Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: the Devil will cast some of you into prison ; and ye shall have tribulation ten days:	Have those that have the Doctrine of Balaam, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and commit fornication. Also, have those that hold the Doctrine of the Nicolaitans.
The Answer:	6. Remember from whence you fell, and Repent, and do the first works;	Be faithful unto death,	Repent,
The Threat:	7. Or else I will come quickly, and remove your Candlestick, unless you Repent.		Or else I will come quickly, and fight against them with the sword of my mouth.
The Reward: 8.	If you overcome, I will give to you to eat of the tree of life in the Paradise of God.	I will give thee a crown of life, and thou shall not be hurt of the second death, if you overcome	I will give to you to eat of the hidden manna, and a white stone with your new name written, if you overcome.
Hear what?	9. Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.	Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.	Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.

SEVEN**CHURCHES**

THYATIRA	SARDIS	PHILADELPHIA	LAODICEA
Unto the angel.....write;	Unto the angel.....write;	Unto the angel.....write;	Unto the angel.....write;
These things saith the Son of God, who hath His eyes like unto a flame of fire, and His feet are like fine brass;	These things saith He that hath the Seven Spirits of God, and the Seven Stars;	These things saith He that is Holy, He that is True, He that hath the Key of David, He that opens, and no man shuts; and shuts, and no man can open;	These things saith the Amen, The Faithful and True Witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
I know thy works.....	I know thy works.....	I know thy works.....	I know thy works.....
And love, and service, and faith, and patience, and works; and the last works more than the first.	Thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Thou hast a few names which have not defiled their garments;	Thou hast a little strength, and hast kept My word, and hast not denied My Name. Thou hast kept the word of My patience.	Thou art neither cold nor hot: thou art lukewarm.
You allow that woman Jezebel, which calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to idols.	Thou art dead, and thy works are nor perfect before God.	Hold fast that which thou hast, so that no man take thy crown.	You say I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and know not that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked:
I gave her time to Repent of her fornication; and she Repented not.	Remember how you have received and heard, and hold fast, and Repent.		I counsel thee to buy gold tried in fire, and white raiment, and anoint your eyes with eyesalve. Be zealous and Repent.
Cast her and those with her into Great Tribulation, unless they Repent. I will kill her children, and give everyone according to their works.	I will come on you as a thief, and you know not the hour.	Behold, I come quickly.	Because you are lukewarm, I will spit you out of My mouth.
If you have not this doctrine, I will put no other burden upon you. Hold fast till I come. If you overcome, I will give you power over the nations:	You have a few names which have not defiled their garments; and will walk with Me in white: You that overcome, will also be in white; and I will not blot you out of the Book of Life,	I have set before thee an open door that no man can shut: Those of the synagogue of Satan will worship at thy feet. I will keep thee from the hour of temptation. If you overcome, I will make you a pillar in the Temple of God.	As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: If you hear my voice, and open the door, I will sup with you. To him that overcometh, he may sit with Me in My throne.
Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.	Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.	Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.	Hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches.

THE SEVEN CHURCHES

OVERVIEW:

(This is an overview of what is being said to the “Seven Churches”)

Jesus here is speaking to the “angels” of the “Seven Churches”. As stated before, in the Greek, “aggelos” is an angel or a messenger. In Hebrew, the word is “malak”, also meaning angel or messenger.

It says in.....

Mal 2:7

7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

Therefore, the messengers are the Pastors/Priests of the Churches of today. Jesus is speaking to you Pastors/Priests, and you are in His right hand.

The person that is speaking to the “Seven Churches” is described in the introduction to each Church. The speaker then states.....”that He knows thy works”. Each of the “Seven Churches” are told by Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, “I know your works”. He takes the time to go into the works of each Church, some of which are very good. He then presents the problems of the various Churches, and then He gives an answer.

Five out of the “Seven Churches” are told to “Repent”! You that have an ear to hear, hear what the Spirit is saying to your Church. He gives a reason why you should “Repent”, and then He gives the consequences of what will happen if you do not “Repent”. God also gives an explanation on His part on what He is doing, or will do.

Finally, all the Churches are told, “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the Churches”.

Because Jesus is Coming Soon!

Revelation 2

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS

Rev 2:1

1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

This scripture explains that Jesus is walking in the ‘midst’ of His Churches.

Rev 2:2-3

2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Notice that the “Church at Ephesus” is doing many works, and is laboring with patience. They think they “Fear the Lord” because they cannot bear them which are evil.

Perhaps they should ‘hate the evil’ which is truly the “Fear of the Lord”, and not those committing the evil. (Proverbs 8:13)

They have tried those that say they are Apostles and are not; and found them liars.

Does this mean that there are no Apostles today? Of course not! This would mean that all Apostles are liars. Notice, these ‘said’ they were apostles. (Ephesians 4:11)

This Church has also gone through trials with patience in the Name of Jesus, and in their labors have not fainted.

Evidently, what they are doing, they are doing with the wrong motives, and perhaps are being judgmental.

Rev 2:4

4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

This is a difficult verse to understand. It took many months of study to come to the conclusions of the verses in the Bible that give the answer in this area.

Jesus is speaking and he says in.....

Mark 12:30

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

Mark 12:31

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

In speaking about Love, evidently, what the Lord is saying here is that not only do we need to Love God, but we need to Love our neighbor as ourselves. We cannot have one without the other. If you don't Love your neighbor, you have left your first Love! It says in.....

John 14:15

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14:21

21 He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me:

Jesus continues by saying in.....

John 15:10

10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love;

John 15:12

12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

James says in.....

James 2:8-9

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

What this means is that we often become 'respecters of persons', or give special attention to certain people in our Church, or in other Churches based upon their position, wealth, degree, office or status. (James 2:1-7)

Although we are to give honor to whom honor is due, (Romans 13:7), we must be careful not to let that prejudice us in our love for all persons.

God is no 'respector of any person', and if we become a 'respector of persons', that is a sin. We are all equal in his eyes.

Peter says in.....

1 Pet 1:22 see 1 Pet 4:8

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

It is easy to talk about Loving our brethren, but do we actually do it?

Have you ever spoken out against your fellow Pastors/ Priests and their Churches?

Do you really know them? (Proverbs 6:16, 19)

What about those poor Churches down the street? Have you ever given them a helping hand? (Romans 15:26)

What about those Churches whose Leaders are made up of other ethnic groups; have you ever thought to contact them? Have you ever had an exchange with them? Have you invited them over to your Church?

What about the poor themselves? Are you feeding the poor? What about the brethren out on the street, do you have a soup kitchen?

Do you go out and compel them to come in? (Luke 14:21, 23)

Do you have a place for those people to come? Do you truly Love your brethren? (Matt. 25:35-40)

I Jn 3:23

23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment.

I Jn 4:12

12If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

You cannot perfect the love of God without Loving one another.

I Jn 4:16

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

I Jn 4:19-20

19 We love him, because he first loved us.

20 If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

So, if you don't Love your brother, and the opposite of Love is hate; then you hate your brother, and you are a liar.

I Jn 4:21

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

I Jn 3:10

10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

This condemns us to believe that if we are not Loving our brother, we possibly, are not of God. It is a terrible thought isn't it? It puts us in a precarious position. We need to ask ourselves, where do we stand? Not in our thinking, but in our hearts and in our works. What are we doing about it?

I Jn 3:15

15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

If we hate our brother, it makes us a murderer in the eyes of God.

What can we do in this situation? If we find ourselves in this category, we need to search our souls and do what the Holy Spirit is saying, and that is to Repent!

We need to Repent immediately in order to get our soul and our conscience clear with God. Also, so that the work that we are doing is not lost, but is done with the Love of God.

The Holy Spirit must be allowed to enter into this problem; as the Bible says:

I Jn 4:13

13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

You may have noticed in your Church, that as you are doing all these works and all these labors, that something has been lacking. You have to strive to get anything done.

Not much has been happening through the Holy Spirit. God has not been speaking to you. It's been dry!

Perhaps that is because you are not living in the Holy Spirit, or you are not walking with Him. (Galatians 5:16, 25)

It says in.....

Gal 5:22

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love.....

You can't Love God and your neighbor as yourself, unless you have the "Fruit of the Spirit" manifested in your life.

Then it goes on and mentions the other fruit. If you study that chapter, it says you should be walking in the Spirit and living in the Spirit, and then the result is that you will bear the "Fruit of the Spirit". The first "Fruit of the Spirit" is Love. If we are not walking and living in the Spirit, how can we perfect Love in our churches? We need to Repent!

If we have no "Fruit of the Spirit", we also have no 'Joy' or 'Peace'!

Gal 5:26

26 Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

Many times our desire is to do works so that we can glorify ourselves and not God.

We need to search our 'soul' and our 'spirit' to see what our motives are for the things we do. We envy one another because we prefer man's fame and man's glory, and not God's. A lot of times we provoke one another because of 'jealousy'. There is a 'spirit of jealousy', so 'Bind' that spirit and 'Cast it out' in Jesus' name. (Numbers 5:14 Matt. 16:19)

Envy is a 'work of the flesh', so we must Repent from that. (Galatians 5:19, 21)

Rev 2:5

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

When God first gave you your ‘Vision’ for your Church, the motives of your heart were pure. The work that you did was for the Lord and done out of Love. Somehow that work has turned into the ‘works of man’, because you have left your “First Love”. What God is saying here is “Repent, and do the first works”.

Next, he gives the threat of removing your Candlestick. This is a terrible but real threat! Your Church will be taken away from you if you do not Repent!

(Again, this message is from the Lord, not man!)

Rev 2:6

6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

This verse is talking about the Nicolaitans, who it is believed were caught up in immoral acts and idolatry. God says that even though you hate these deeds, and are not allowing immoral acts in your Church, you are still doing it without the right motives.

Rev 2:7

7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

If you will hear what God the Holy Spirit is saying, you will overcome, and eat of the “Tree of Life”! (Gen. 2:9 Rev. 22:2)

THE CHURCH IN SMYRNA

Rev 2:8-9

8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich)

“The Church in Smyrna” is a poor Church that financially doesn’t have much going for it; but the Lord is telling them that they are rich. They are rich in Love and the ways of the Lord. This Church can be recognized today in the inner cities of America with all the gang problems, violence, drugs, murders, etc. They have tribulation and poverty. This Church is also seen in the poorer countries of the world, and in those countries where governments oppress ‘freedom of religion’. In these places, the fight to preach the ‘Gospel of Jesus’ is still going on, in spite of the trials and struggles this Church is going through.

Rev 2:9

9and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

We might insert the word “Christians” here, as well as Jews. Those that say they are “Christians”, but are of the ‘synagogue of Satan’.

It says in Romans.....

Rom 2:17

17 Behold, thou art called a Jew.....

This scripture talks about the Jews who called themselves Jews. Remember that we are thinking of those who call themselves “Christians” as well.

Rom 2:18

18 And knowest his will.....

So in this synagogue they called themselves Jews and they knew the will of God.

Rom 2:20

20which hast the form of knowledge and of the truth in the law.

They had a ‘form’ of knowledge and of the truth. (2 Timothy 3:1, 5)

Rom 2:21-22

21 Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?

22 Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery, dost thou commit adultery? thou that abhorrest idols, dost thou commit sacrilege?

In this Church of so called Jews, the Pastors, Teachers, and/or Leaders were themselves committing the same acts they were telling the people not to do.

Think about that. “Ye shall know them by their fruits.” (Matt 7:15, 16 Jer 48:10)

It says in.....

Rom 2:28-29

28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly.....

29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly.....

The “synagogue of Satan” call themselves by Jesus’ name, professing that they know God, but by their works they deny Him. (Titus 1:16)

These are the synagogues (Churches) that we need to be aware of, and leery of. Just as the “Church in Smyrna” was being blasphemed by these synagogues, so will many of your Churches be, and you yourself.

Rev 2:10

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; (Remember it is the devil which is causing these things) and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Many Christians throughout the world have been imprisoned for their beliefs; and now this is happening in America. This will increase! May we keep our hearts and minds focused on the Lord as Paul and Silas did. (Acts 16:23, 25)

May we have the ‘attitude’ of Peter and the other Apostles, to be counted worthy to suffer shame for His Name. (Acts 5:17, 18, 28, 29, 40, 41)

Imagine having to go to your death for your faithfulness to God. Some of the Churches in these ‘Last Days’, may not be as fortunate as others. Some people ‘will’ be martyred into heaven for their faithfulness. (And I am not talking about the Tribulation Period)

Thank God that we are not all in that situation, and let us appreciate here in America and some other countries, even though we have the problems that we do, that we’re not forced to our death for our faith..., at least not yet! (1 Cor 12:12-27)

Rev 2:11

11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death. (Rev. 20:6, 14 21:8)

So even though these in the “Church in Smyrna” are being martyred, they will not be hurt by the second death. Praise the Lord!

THE CHURCH IN PERGAMOS

Rev 2:12

12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

Again, Jesus is mentioned as He with the 'Two-Edged Sword'.
It says in.....

John 1:1

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

And in.....

Rev 19:13

13and his name is called The Word of God.

That "Word of God", mentioned here is "Logos" in the Greek.
It says in.....

Rev 19:15

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword.....

Meaning out of Jesus' mouth.

Heb 4:12

12 For the word of God (Jesus) is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

I believe what it is saying in Hebrews 4:12, based on these Scriptures as the basis, is that the 'Logos' "Word of God" represents Jesus.

What this means, is that when we Christians stand before the 'Judgment Seat' of Christ (Rom 14:10, 12 2 Cor 5:10) as well as the unbelievers' that will be at the 'Great White Throne Judgment' (Rev 20:11, 12, 15); Jesus with His 'Two-edged Sword', will divide asunder in the individual, the soul and the spirit. Thus revealing the thoughts and intents of our hearts.

When it is talking about the 'joints and marrow', it is talking about the dividing asunder of the Church (His body) (Eph 4:16 Col 2:19). This means that the 'Two-Edged Sword' of Jesus will divide the thoughts and the intents of the hearts of those in the Church (Body), to show why they did the things they have done.

Rev 2:13

13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

“The Church in Pergamos” is located in the middle of Satan’s seat. It is in a city that is surrounded by evil. Yet this Church and it’s Pastor/ Priest is still holding fast the Name of Jesus, and will not deny the faith.

Evidently, there was a martyr who was slain in this Church due to the area in which it is located. It is not hard to believe that this could happen, because it is happening today with all the gang related murders in the inner cities of America, and the atrocities being committed against Christians in the rest of the world.

Rev 2:14

14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel.....

This “Doctrine” is “False Doctrine”, and even though the “Church in Pergamos” is doing a lot of good things, it has people that are ‘False Teachers’ and ‘False Brethren’ that are holding “False Doctrines”.

The “Doctrine of Balaam”, speaks about areas of greed.
It says in.....

2 Pet 2:1 See: Numbers 31:16

1 But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you.....

2 Pet 2:15

15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness;

It says in Jude.....

Jude 4

4 For there are certain men crept in unawares.....

These are the ‘False Brethren’ that have crept into your Churches.

Jude 11

11 Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward.....

Again, this speaks of the greed in the “Doctrine of Balaam”.

Perhaps you have people in the Church who are doing counseling, which is part of the ‘Bishop Ministry’, (see Titus 1:7), or who are involved in other areas of church work that are being paid for it.

These are to be done without ‘filthy lucre’. (Titus 1:10, 11 1 Tim. 3:2, 3, 8)

Remember, the thoughts and intents of the heart. These things are to be done for free.

So as you scrutinize the people in your Church, you need to look at the thoughts and intents of their hearts, and see why they are doing the things that they are doing.

It says in Jude.....

Jude 12

12 These are spots in your feasts of charity, when they feast with you.....

Jude 16

16 These are murmurers, complainers, walking after their own lusts; and their mouth speaketh great swelling words, having men’s persons in admiration because of advantage.

There are many of these people in the Church today who are always complaining, always murmuring, and the things they do are merely for advantage.

Jude points out, that these are “spots in your feasts”. Those spots need to be removed.

In Ephesians, Jesus in speaking of the Church says.....

Eph 5:26

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

The washing of water by the ‘Word’, is “Rhema” in the Greek, not “Logos”.

I believe the Lord is speaking to you Pastors/ Priests today, through the “Rhema” Word of God, that you need to wash your Church and rid it of these ‘spots’.

It continues in Ephesians.....

Eph 5:27

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

The Lord leaves us with the responsibility to remove those people, those “spots” within our Church who profess “False Doctrine”, and who are ‘False Brethren’; unless they Repent!

It continues in Revelation 2:14.....

Rev 2:14

14to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

In the Book of Acts, the Apostles and Elders sent out messengers and also wrote letters to the various Gentile Churches.

What they wrote was.....

Acts 15:29

29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication.....

It's funny, that after all these years, the problems in the Church are still the same; idolatry and fornication. These are all acts of impurity; all areas of the flesh.

Rev 2:15

15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

This "Doctrine of the Nicolaitans" is "False Doctrine", but of a different sort. It is believed that the Nicolaitans taught the 'freedom of the flesh'; that the spirit was separate from the flesh so it didn't matter what we did in the flesh.

There are those that profess a similar 'Doctrine' today.

The answer to all this is.....

Rev 2:16

16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

The fight may not be against you personally, you may have a good Church, and you're doing the right things; but you are allowing the 'False Brethren' to profess the things that they are professing in your Church. That makes you responsible!

Therefore, the Lord is going to come quickly to you, and He will fight against them with the "Sword of His Mouth", so He will be cutting them asunder.

It is your responsibility to take care of these things before Jesus has to do it Himself.

Rev 2:17

17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

The "Sword of the Spirit" which is part of the full armor of God described in Ephesians, is the "Rhema" Word, and I believe that God is giving you this "Rhema" Word right now to cleanse your Church of 'spots or wrinkles', so that he can present it to Himself a 'glorious' Church at His Coming.

THE CHURCH IN THYATIRA

Rev 2:18

18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;

In writing to “The Church in Thyatira”, Jesus says that His eyes are the “Spirit of God” that is sent into all the world (Revelation 5:6); and His feet are as fine brass like the brazen altar. (Exodus 27:1, 2 38:1, 2)

Rev 2:19

19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

Here Jesus is speaking about their works, and He says that the last works are more than the first. The “Church in Thyatira” have increased in their works. They have gotten better over a period of time, and the Lord is commending them on that. This is unlike the “Church in Ephesus” which was told to Repent and do the first works, because they had gotten away from their first love.....Jesus.

Rev 2:20

20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

In this area, the “Church in Thyatira” is somewhat worse than the “Church in Pergamos”. Instead of having ‘False Brethren’ with “False Doctrine”, they have a ‘False Prophetess’ (Jezebel), who is ‘teaching’ “False Doctrine”. This is why, as a Pastor/Priest, you need to know all the ‘teachings’ that are going on in your home studies and whatever Bible Studies you have at your Church. Be sure that what is taught is not “False Doctrine” or even “Unsound Doctrine”. If other groups are using your Church, it is important to know what “Doctrine” they are teaching. This is your responsibility!

Concerning the things that are eaten that are sacrificed to idols:
It says in 1 Corinthians.....

1 Cor 8:4

4 As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is none other God but one.

1 Cor 8:7

7 Howbeit there is not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled.

1 Cor 8:9-10

9 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.

10 For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened (encouraged) to eat those things which are offered to idols;

1 Cor 8:12

12 But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ.

In other words, these verses are saying that even meat offered to idols means nothing, because idols are nothing. We know the True and the Living God. However, if you are eating meat from an idol, and your brother who is weak sees you, and it causes him to think that you are eating it as an offering to that idol, then he may fall.

A good comparison to this would be an alcoholic. If you are not in Leadership in your Church, you might feel free to have a drink occasionally; but if you are around a brother or a sister in the Lord, who is an ex-alcoholic, you should not drink, lest they see you and fall. Leaders should not drink at all! (1 Timothy 3:3 Titus 1:7 1 Timothy 3:8 5:23)

As it says in verse 12, "But when ye sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ."

Although we have the 'law of liberty', we have to be cautious in all that we do around our brethren. (1 Corinthians 10:31)

Rev 2:21

21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

Notice the Repentance was for Fornication; and she Repented not. Some believe this is speaking about 'Spiritual Fornication', but I believe it means 'Physical Fornication' as well. This is a major problem in today's Church.

It says in Ephesians.....

Eph 5:3-5

3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

In verse 3 of Ephesians 5, it talks about ‘Fornication’. This is a ‘work of the flesh’, and they which do such things shall not inherit the Kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19, 21 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10 Colossians 3:5, 6)

When speaking of filthiness, talking foolish or jesting, in verse 4, it states that they are not convenient (not fit or proper). Verse 5 mentions that no whoremongers, unclean persons, covetous men who are idolaters, (idolaters are those who profess they know Christ but continue to function in these sins) have any inheritance in the Kingdom of Christ and God.

There is a “Doctrine” going around today that says regardless of what you do and how you live, if you say the sinner’s prayer, you are Saved. This “Doctrine” doesn’t take into consideration the “Parable of the Sower”. Jesus says, many people hear the Word with joy, but Satan comes along and takes it out of their heart, lest they believe and be Saved. So many of these people who are committing these sins have never been saved. (Matthew 13:19 Mark 4:15 Luke 8:12)

Eph 5:6-7

6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

Therefore, we are not to be partakers (co-participants) with them!

Revelation continues speaking about the ‘False Prophetess’ (Jezebel).....

Rev 2:22

22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation.....

Notice that they “all” will be cast into a bed and into ‘Great Tribulation’. Those that commit adultery with her are included. It seems so often that when Satan gets involved in an activity, sex becomes a part of it.

As you Pastors/Priests examine your Church, you need to analyze each situation, the people involved, and what they are doing; and keep a constant eye on the activities that take place. Those activities must represent a “Holy Church” without ‘blemish’.

What is the ‘Great Tribulation’?

We will all go through ‘some’ tribulation and trials as Christians. However, ‘The Great Tribulation’, is mentioned in the Bible many times, and it is talking about the “Tribulation Period”. (Matt. 24: 21, 29 Mark 13:14, 19, 24 Rev. 7:14)

We know this will be a horrible time.

Since the Lord told Timothy II that He is Coming Soon, the “Great Tribulation” is also coming soon!

This group of ‘False Prophetesses’, ‘False Prophets’, ‘Fornicators’, and those who will not inherit the Kingdom of Heaven, will go through the “Great Tribulation Period”.

He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches!

Continuing in Revelation 2:22 it says.....

Rev 2:22

22except they repent of their deeds.

Unless they Repent of their deeds!

The good news is when it talks about ‘False Teachers’ and ‘False Brethren’ in Jude it says....

Jude 22-23

22 And of some have compassion, making a difference:

23 And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

So some of these ‘False Prophetesses’, and ‘False Brethren’, can be Saved by having compassion on them. Others will be Saved through fear, telling them what is in store for them.

Remember it says, the garments are “spotted” by the flesh. These are “spots” in your Church that must be removed; which requires a “discerning of spirits” and “trying of spirits”. (1 John 4:1-6 1 Cor. 12:10) Unless they Repent!

Rev 2:23

23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

This is a difficult verse to understand, when it speaks of killing the children. But after spending much time on this, I believe the Lord directed me to Jeremiah 11, which speaks of Judah, when they had set up altars to burn incense to Baal.

It talks about what the Lord will do.

For example it says in.....

Jer 11:22

22 Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, Behold, I will punish them: the young men shall die by the sword; their sons and their daughters shall die by famine:

This is interesting because we know that in the “Tribulation Period”, those that do not accept the “mark of the beast” will not get any food. (Revelation 13:16, 17)

There is a strong possibility that they may die by famine before and during the “Tribulation Period”. (Revelation 7:14, 16)

Another Scripture in Jeremiah which goes along with this, since Jezebel called herself a Prophetess is.....

Jer 14:14-15

14 Then the LORD said unto me, The prophets prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

15 Therefore thus saith the LORD concerning the prophets that prophesy in my name, and I sent them not, yet they say, Sword and famine shall not be in this land; By sword and famine shall those prophets be consumed.

A confirmation that famine will be involved with these 'False Prophetesses' and their children.

It is interesting to note that in Jeremiah there are also many verses mentioning Pastors.

Jer 10:21

21 For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the LORD: therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered.

Jer 12:10

10 Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

In the prophesy the Lord gave Timothy II, The Lord said that the Church is as a 'wilderness' and a 'desert'; a dry place.

Until the 'rivers of living water' are poured out upon these Churches, and 'received'; they will remain that way.

We must get ready for the "Awakening" that is coming soon and now is! It is up to us to cleanse our House and rid ourselves of these "spots and blemishes".

It continues in Revelation.....

Rev 2:23

23I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts:

This means that Jesus searches the inner most thoughts of our mind, and the intents of our heart. Other Scriptures that mention this are

Ps 7:9

9 Oh let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end; but establish the just: for the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins.

Ps 26:2

2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.

Jer 11:20

20 But, O LORD of hosts, that judgest righteously, that triest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I revealed my cause.

Jer 17:10

10 I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Jer 20:12

12 But, O LORD of hosts, that triest the righteous, and seest the reins and the heart, let me see thy vengeance on them: for unto thee have I opened my cause.

Heb 4:12

12 For the word of God (Jesus) is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

So the Lord knows the thoughts and intents of our hearts. Revelation 2:23, 24 continues..

Rev 2:23-24

23and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

In other words, to you the Pastor/Priest and the rest in Thyatira, who do not believe this “Doctrine” of this ‘False Prophetess’, and who have not known the depths of Satan, you will have no other burdens put upon you. It is a big enough burden having this person in your church, and many have fallen because of her.

You must get rid of her! This is an “evil spirit” you’re dealing with. (Eph. 6:10, 11
1 Peter 3:21, 22 Luke 10:19) It is not a ‘Jezebel spirit’ but a “spirit of Whoredoms”.
(Hosea 4:11, 12 5:4) (Read the Study Guide on “Demons” by Timothy II)

Rev 2:25

25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I (the Lord) come.

The good things that are being done in your Church, the right things that you are doing; continue until the Lord gets here. Remember, the Lord also would have you to remove the ‘spots’.

Rev 2:26

26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

If we keep on doing His works, and not ours, and overcome the trials and tribulations, by fighting the good fight (2 Timothy 4:7); then the Lord will give each of us this power, ‘delegated power’ over the nations in the millennium.

Rev 2:27-29

27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

28 And I will give him the morning star. (Revelation 22:16)

29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 3

THE CHURCH IN SARDIS

Rev 3:1

1 And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God.....

This statement means that Jesus is He that has the Holy Spirit, which is the “Seven Spirits of God”.

It says in Revelation 4:5.....

Rev 4:5

5 And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.

The “Seven Spirits of God” make up the “Seven Attributes” of the Holy Spirit.
(Read the “Seven Spirits of God” by Timothy II)

Rev 5:6

6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

The “Seven Spirits of God” are the eyes of Jesus sent forth into all the earth.

If this “Church in Sardis”, which is dead, will seek the Lord; they will realize that they have the “Power” of the “Fullness of the Holy Spirit” in them.

The “Seven Spirits”, which are the “Seven Attributes of the Holy Spirit” is available to them when God the Holy Spirit enters into them at the time of Salvation.

(Read the Tract "The Fullness of the Holy Spirit" by Timothy II)

Revelation 3:1 continues.....

Rev 3:1

1and the seven stars;.....

Again, the “Seven Stars” are the Pastors/ Priests that are in the right hand of Jesus.

Rev 3:1

1I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

The Pastor/Priest of this Church is dead, and so is his Church. Yet he is in the right hand of God, and has available to him the “Fullness of the Holy Spirit”.

He that has an ear to hear let him hear what the spirit is saying to “himself” and to his Church.

Rev 3:2

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

Because this Pastor/ Priest and his Church are dead, they are not being ‘watchful’. They are not looking for the things to come. It says in Luke.....

Luke 12:37

37 Blessed are those servants, whom the lord when he cometh shall find watching:

We need to be ‘watching’ at all times!

Luke 12:38

38 And if he shall come in the second watch, or come in the third watch, and find them so, blessed are those servants.

The Lord is saying that regardless of when He comes, whether it be the second or third watch, be ‘watching’.

There are those who have argued over whether the Lord will appear in the pre-trib, post-trib or mid-tribulation period. Regardless of when it is, the Lord is saying, ‘be watching’. Blessed are you if you are.

Evidently, this Church in Sardis, along with it’s dead Pastor/Priest is not ‘watching’; therefore, they are not being ‘watchful’ over the things that they are doing.

Luke 12:40

40 Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.

They are being warned!

Peter then asks the Lord and the Lord answers.....

Luke 12:41-42

41 Then Peter said unto him, Lord, speakest thou this parable unto us, or even to all?

42 And the Lord said, Who then is that faithful and wise steward,.....

This word “steward” in the Greek is “oikonomos”. This is a “Preacher of the Gospel”.

It continues in Luke.....

Luke 12:43

43 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

The word “servant” here, is “doulos” in the Greek, which is a “Bond Servant”, or slave.

So what the Lord is saying to you Pastors/Priests, is that blessed is that faithful and wise “Preacher of the Gospel”, who is a “Bond Servant” to Him. Who when He comes, He will find you doing.

Doing what? Doing the work of the Lord in “His House” and ‘watching’.

Luke 12:44-46

44 Of a truth I say unto you, that he will make him ruler over all that he hath.

45 But and if that servant say in his heart, My lord delayeth his coming; and shall begin to beat the menservants and maidens, and to eat and drink, and to be drunken;

46 The lord of that servant will come in a day when he looketh not for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in sunder, and will appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

This statement here is made to those who say in their heart that the Lord delayeth his coming. This dead Church, with it’s dead Pastor/Priest, is not ‘watching’ for the ‘Coming of the Lord’.

They begin to eat and become gluttonous. They begin to drink and become drunken, and beat (or abuse) their fellow menservants and maidens.

Notice here that they are beating each other. They are rowdy and partying having “so called” good times. Then it says the Lord will come when he is not ‘watching’ and will cut him in sunder and appoint him his portion with the ‘unbelievers’.

Luke 12:47-48

47 And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

48 But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few stripes. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required:.....

The person that knows the Lord’s Will and doesn’t do it, and doesn’t prepare himself for His soon Coming; is in for greater punishment than those who do not know His Will.

As a Pastor/Priest, you’ve been given much. Much will be required of you.

Rev 3:3

3 Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent.....

Remember, Jesus Christ is speaking here in Revelation, through the Holy Spirit, and through Timothy II, to you Pastors/Priests. That's how you've heard, and the Lord says to hold fast and 'Repent'. And 'Watch'!

Rev 3:3

3If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

We will not have that day overtake us as a thief, if we are 'watching'.
It says in 1 Thessalonians.....

1Thes 5:2

2 For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

1Thes 5:4

4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

Continuing it says.....

1Thes 5:6-7

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

As the True "Body of Christ", we must not sleep as others do. We must be 'watching' and be sober. This means we cannot afford to be drinking alcohol, or taking drugs, thereby 'quenching' the Spirit. That's why we are warned throughout the Bible to be sober. (Titus 2:4, 6, 12 1 Peter 1:13 4:7 5:8)

It seems that alcohol contributes a lot to the problems within the Church, and may cause our not being ready for the "Coming of the Lord".

1Thes 5:9

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

It says in 2 Peter that we should be.....

2 Pet 3:12

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God,.....

2 Pet 3:14

14 Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless.

When we and our Church are ‘watching’, and without ‘spot’, we will be in peace.

Rev 3:4

4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

Even though the Church may be dead and/or the Pastor/Priest may be dead, there may be those in the Church that are not defiling their garments and are walking worthily with the Lord. These are getting themselves ready for the “Marriage Supper of the Lamb”.

Rev 19:7-8

7 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.

8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.

If this dead Pastor/Priest and dead Church do not Repent, these few faithful will leave this Church. Those that are ‘True Worshipers’ must leave!

John 4:23-24

23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Revelation 3 continues.....

Rev 3:5

5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

He that “Overcometh” will be he that ‘Overcomes’ this dead Church and this dead Pastor/Priest. In other words, those that will ‘Repent’ will also be clothed in white the same as those that never did defile their garments.

The Lord is giving you this opportunity to ‘Repent’ and he will not ‘blot out’ your name from the “Book of Life”.

There are many types of Doctrine dealing with losing Salvation, and whether we can or not. Here Jesus is saying, I will not ‘blot out’ your name out of the “Book of Life”; meaning that Jesus can and will ‘blot your name out’ of the “Book of Life”, if He so desires.

In Isaiah 1:28, it says.....

Isa 1:28

28 And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

Notice that there are two types of persons mentioned here, the ‘Sinners’ and the ‘Transgressors’. The ‘Sinners’ are the ‘unbelievers’, and the ‘Transgressors’ are those who have ‘broken away from the Lord’. They are the rebels, the trespassers, the idolaters who profess they know God, but by their works they deny Him.

It also says in Isaiah 1:28: “they that forsake the Lord shall be consumed together”.
(Matthew 7:20-23 Gal. 2:17, 18 1 John 2:19)

Rev 3:6

6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA

Rev 3:7

7 And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

THE KEY OF THE HOUSE OF DAVID:

In Isaiah 22 it says.....

Isa 22:22

22 And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

Here the Lord is saying that in these last days, He will give the “Key of the House of David” to certain Churches that are as the “Church in Philadelphia”. He will open their doors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and no man will be able to shut them. He will also shut the doors of some Churches and no man will be able to open them.

Isa 60:11

11 Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces (wealth) of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.

I realize that this verse is primarily understood as being in the time of the ‘millennium’, but I believe that God is working in the Churches today, preparing an ‘Outpouring of the Holy Spirit’. An ‘Awakening’ that is coming, and now is!

God is saying that “He” will open up the gates of some Churches continually, so that they may reach out and bring in the people, that many may be “Saved” during this ‘Awakening’. He will also provide the means and the favor of governments to make it happen.

He will also ‘close the doors’ of other Churches because they are not of Him, and He will write “Ichabod” across them. (“The Glory is departed”) (1Samuel 4:21, 22)

Isa 60:13

13 The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee, the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will make the place of my feet glorious.

What the Lord is saying here is that He will bring all different types of people from all countries, from the streets, from the dead Churches, from the synagogues of Satan, and from the places where He is not honored; into His own sanctuary where the gates and doors will be open day and night. He will bring all these people together to make the place of His Sanctuary beautiful.

Rev 3:8

8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

The “Church in Philadelphia” is the type of Church that has favor with the Lord. He knows their works and finds favor with them.

Notice how simple they are: “They just have a little strength, they have kept His word, and have not denied His name.” Because of this, Jesus says, “I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it.”

It is not important what works we do, nor all the different programs that we have; but what is important is the motivation as to why we are doing the things that we are doing. Jesus is telling the “Church in Philadelphia” that they have a ‘little strength’, but that is all that is necessary because they have the ‘right motives’. Therefore, He is going to keep their doors open, so that they may go out and bring in many souls during the ‘Awakening’.

Rev 3:9

9 Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

This speaks about the “synagogue of Satan”, as in the blasphemy of the “Church in Smyrna”. It is made up of those who say they are Jews (Christians) but do lie.

Jesus is saying that, “...I will make them to come and worship me...” before this “Church in Philadelphia”, to let everyone know that God ‘loves’ this Church, because they are in His will.

These are “unbelievers” coming from Churches that are not of God, even though they may use His name. When they come in the ‘Awakening’, they need to be “Delivered”, get “Saved”, and then learn “Sound Doctrine”, and be taught the “Truth”.

It says in 1 Timothy

1 Tim 4:16

16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

The 'Sound Doctrine' will be very important to re-establish the 'thinking' of these 'new' Christians. We must be ready to receive these new believers who 'thought' they were Christians. We must lead them into 'Sound Doctrine' and let them know the ways of the 'Truth'.

Rev 3:10

10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

In reference to..... "the word of My patience,"

In the "Parable of the Sower", in speaking of the seed that fell on good ground:

It says in Luke 8:15.....

Luke 8:15

15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

So keeping the "Word of His patience", are they that hear the word, and keep it, and "bring forth" fruit.

The "Church in Philadelphia" is a Church that is 'bearing fruit'. There will be many 'Salvations' in this Church. The people will be going out to the streets to gather in the harvest. This Church will be 'bearing fruit' and 'keeping the Word of God's patience'. (Read Isaiah 58:6-14)

In reference to..... "I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth."

It is pretty obvious that this means that God will keep us from the "Great Tribulation". In other words, He is going to keep us from the "Great Tribulation Period" that is to come.

Rev 3:11

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

I believe that here the Lord is speaking to you Pastors/Priests and Church Leaders; to let "no man take thy crown."

It says in 1 Peter.....

1 Pet 5:4

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

That's the "Crown" that we will receive when we get to Heaven. But there is a warning!

Isa 28:5-6

5 In that day shall the LORD of hosts be for a crown of glory, and for a diadem of beauty, unto the residue of his people,

6 And for a spirit of judgment to him that sitteth in judgment, and for strength to them that turn the battle to the gate.

There are those that God has Called, that are battling at the gates of the Churches right now, to bring the residue of the people to the Lord, in Holiness, and to be rid of the 'spots and the wrinkles'. (Isaiah 62:10)

One problem that keeps cropping up, particularly in America, is found in Isaiah. It talks about the "Crown of Pride" of the 'drunkards' of Ephraim.

Isa 28:7-8

7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.

8 For all tables are full of vomit and filthiness, so that there is no place clean.

These are the Leaders of the Church to whom God is speaking; and He is speaking to some of you right now!

As Church Leaders there is no place for 'alcohol' in your life! You have a huge responsibility in the Leadership of your Church.

It further says in Isaiah.....

Isa 28:17

17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.

God is bringing 'Judgment' to the Churches. (1 Peter 4:17)

His water; 'living waters', will overflow the hiding places; and the hail that follows will sweep away the 'deceit' and the 'lies' that are at the altars and in the pulpits.

(Isaiah 32:19)

God is speaking to you about 'alcohol'. You must do away with it in your Church.

Remember, "let no man take thy crown". Man is the one that gets involved in 'alcohol', because of our flesh. Man is taking away your Crown because of that. That man may be "You"!

This includes drugs or anything else that would keep us from being sober.

Isa 32:16-17

16 Then judgment shall dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness remain in the fruitful field.

17 And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance for ever.

Once this final ‘Judgment’ comes to the Wilderness Churches in these last days, it will dwell or stay there, to cause a continuous Judgment to the Rebellious. Righteousness will remain in the Fruitful Churches such as the Church in Philadelphia. The results will be peace and quietness and assurance forever. PTL!

Rev 3:12

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, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

SUMMARY OF THE CHURCH IN PHILADELPHIA:

The ‘Church in Philadelphia’ is a good Church. They are not even told to Repent. However, they will receive warnings, such as about alcohol; so that they may keep doing the Work of the Lord and have their gates continually open. They need to have, and to teach ‘Sound Doctrine’. They need to be prepared to receive the various types of people that will be ‘Saved’ in the ‘Awakening’. Are you prepared at your Church? Be prepared before the ‘Awakening’ comes and now is, and ‘let no man take thy Crown’.

Rev 3:13

13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA

Rev 3:14-15

14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

The Lord is saying to the Pastor/Priest of the “Church of Laodicea”, “If you are hot, I could praise you, and if you are cold I could chastise you; but because you are in the middle, I can do nothing with you.”

Rev 3:16

16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

This is a Church that God will “regurgitate”, unless they Repent!

In Psalm 106, Israel ‘rebelled’ against God; this is similar to what happens in the “Church of Laodicea”.

Ps 106:12

12 Then believed they his words; they sang his praise.

I’m sure the “Church of Laodicea” started out like most Churches, by believing the Word of God, and with singing and praising the Lord. They probably started out with the right Vision, methods, and the right ideas; because Jesus was in their midst.

However it says in verse 13....

Ps 106:13

13 They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel:

This means they forgot His works and turned to the ‘counsel of men’.

It goes on to say.....

Ps 106:14

14 But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.

This Church has turned into a ‘wilderness’ and a ‘desert’ because of their ‘lusts’ and ‘temptations’.

Ps 106:15

15 And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul.

The Pastors/Priests and Church Leader's souls are lean (thin or unproductive), they lack Love and they quench the Spirit. Yet they think they have it made because of the money and the finances that are coming in. That is the 'deceitfulness' of riches!

Ps 106:21

21 They forgot God their saviour,.....

Soon they even forget about God Himself!!

Ps 106:25

25 But murmured in their tents, and hearkened not unto the voice of the LORD.

They become murmurers, because they are not listening to the voice of God.

Ps 106:28

28 They joined themselves also unto Baalpeor, and ate the sacrifices of the dead.

They separate themselves from the True "Body of Christ", and turn to greed, idolatry, and fornication; similar to the "Church in Pergamos". (Hosea 9:10 Revelation 2:14)

Ps 106:32

32 They angered him (God).....

Ps 106:35

35 But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works.

This Church of today has mingled with the world and joined in man's philosophy, psychology, traditions and religions.

Ps 106:36-37

36 And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them.

37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,

Think about this 'rich' Church; they have a lot of money. (1 Timothy 6:9)
Perhaps both parents of their families are working; children left alone, expensive cars, maybe drugs, sex or alcohol, and all of the other problems that can enter into that lifestyle. This is how we can actually sacrifice our sons and daughters on the altar of demons, by satisfying our own selfish wants. (1 Timothy 4:1)

Ps 106:39-40

39 Thus were they defiled with their own works,.....

40 Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people,.....

This Church needs to 'Repent'! And quickly!! (2 Timothy 2:25, 26)

The Lord continues in Revelation.....

Rev 3:17

17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

This is a warning to the “Church of Laodicea”.

Jeremiah 5:26-31, talks about this type of ‘Rich Church’.....

Jer 5:26-31

26 For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men.

27 As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich.

28 They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

29 Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation (Church) as this?

30 A wonderful and horrible (awesome) thing is committed in the land;

31 The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

What the Lord is saying here, is that ‘wicked men’ are among His people in these Churches. (Jude 4)

They have ‘snared’ the people, and caused them to be caught up in the ‘things of the world’.

These Churches are full of ‘deceit’, led by the Pastors/Priests and other Church Leaders. Thereby, these Churches have become ‘great and rich’. They are so ‘great and rich’ that they have become fat. They continue to build bigger and better buildings; shinier buildings.

The men and women in these Churches actually ‘surpass’ the deeds of the wicked of this world. They know the Truth, and yet they will not help the single parent families, the orphans, the poor, the homeless, the needy, etc.

Also in these Churches, the Prophets prophesy falsely, the Pastors/Priests rule by their own authority, not by God’s; and they do it for the money (filthy lucre). The people love it, because they are hearing what they want to hear.

(2 Timothy 4:3, 4)

The Lord says He’ll avenge these Churches, because they ‘trust’ in the flesh (Egypt), and not Him! (Isaiah 30:1-3)

This does not mean that all Churches that are rich are evil. Many are doing many wonderful works; but it is easy to fall back and relax when things get too comfortable. Remember: “Ye shall know them by their fruits.”

I look forward to the day when these rich Churches will call on Timothy II and the Team, to help distribute their blessings and relief, to the poorer Churches in the world.

(Acts 11:29 2 Cor. 8:18-24)

(Read "The Ten Commandments for the Church" by Timothy II)

The Lord continues.....

Rev 3:18

18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

To really be rich, we need to buy God's Gold! We need to put on the 'Robe's of Righteousness', so that we do not appear naked and anoint our eyes with eye salve so we can see!

I believe that only some of those in the Church of Laodicea are going to make it in the "Translation of the Church".

It says in Zechariah.....

Zech 13:9

9 And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God.

This means that only a 'third part' of these Churches will be 'Saved' and go in the "Translation of the Church". They are the one's that shall call upon the "Name of the Lord", and He will hear them!

The Lord will say that they are 'His people', and they shall say 'The Lord is our God'! He that has an ear, let him hear!

Rev 3:19

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Before the Lord called Timothy II into His Work, he was a Football Coach. He often told the players as they started the season, that he would probably be "chewing" on them throughout the year; but not to worry, because he Loved them and he wanted them to improve. The time that they should be worried is when he didn't say anything at all to them. That probably meant that he had given up on them or forgotten them.

The Lord is saying the same thing here....."As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: therefore be sincere, and Repent."

If your Church is rich, and you believe because everything seems to be going fine, it is because of God's approval of your Church, take heed!! The Lord says, whom He loves, He'll rebuke and chasten; so you'll grow. The deceitfulness of riches says, "I am increased (with goods) and have need of nothing".

It says in Hebrews.....

Heb 12:6

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

Heb 12:8

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

Therefore, if you are not sometimes being chastened you need to quickly 'Repent'!

It goes on in Revelation.....

Rev 3:20

20 Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Jesus is in the midst of the Churches of the "Seven Golden Candlesticks", but this rich Church has forced Him outside. He is knocking on the door, seeking entrance for a relationship once again.

Rev 3:21

21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

If you will 'Repent', the Lord Jesus will still allow you to come and sit down with Him at His throne, who also is sitting down with His Father at His Throne.

Rev 3:22

22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.



Conclusion:

In the conclusion of this message to the “Seven Churches”, I’d like to remind you of the “**good news**”. Regardless of your denomination, regardless of your doctrine, or whatever is being said or done in your Church; these “Seven Churches” **are** the “**Seven Golden Candlesticks**”, and Jesus **is** in your midst!

Therefore, Jesus is asking you Pastors/Priests to examine your Churches, and to prayerfully consider how they might relate to the “Seven Churches”; and if need be, to ‘Repent’ and get your Church right with Him.

Remember, an ‘Awakening’ is coming soon - and now is; and Jesus is refining His Church to get ready for the ‘outpouring of the Holy Spirit’.

Those Churches that are ‘cleansed and washed’ with Sound Doctrine, and who are feeding the poor, taking care of the needy, going out to the streets, ministering overseas, and helping other Churches, will be ready. They will also be ready to receive these new ‘unusual’ people into their fold. Will you be ready? Are you Ready??

Those who are not ready, will ‘not’ receive the ‘outpouring of the Holy Spirit’, nor be part of the ‘Awakening’ that is coming - and now is!

They also may miss the “Translation of the Church”, unless they ‘Repent’!

He that hath an ear, hear what the Holy Spirit is saying unto all the Churches.

AMEN !!

TIMOTHY II

Mal 4:5-6

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Luke 1:17

17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

Text :

The Holy Bible

Authorized (King James) Version

Produced By:

The National Bible Press - Philadelphia

Copyright 1944, National Publishing Company

Comments:

This text has been used as the source for all scriptures.

Some verses of scripture have been shortened or used in partial form.

This is to strengthen their importance to the subject matter; not to change their meaning nor meant to be taken out of the context in which they are written.

Text:

Webster's New American Dictionary

Produced By:

Books, Inc., Publishers - New York & Washington, D.C.

Copyright 1965, By Books, Inc.

Comments:

The Dictionary is used to help clarify our understanding of what certain words mean in today's language.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words

By:

W.E. Vine, M.A.

MacDonald Publishing Company

McLean, Virginia 22101

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible

By:

James Strong, S.T.D., LL.D.

Riverside Book and Bible House

Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126