

**From Setback to Comeback:
The Seven Churches
of the Apocalypse**

Revelation 1:17-20

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And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, “Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen.

Revelation 1:17-20

And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.

Revelation 1:17-20

The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lamp stands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lamp stands which you saw are the seven churches.

Apocalypse

– Greek: “unveiling”

Revelation

– Latin word: “unveiling”

I. The Vision of the Christ (1:17-18; 1:12-16).

“I am the First and the Last” (Isa. 41:4; 44:6)

“I am the Living One” (Rom. 6:9)

“I was dead, now, I am alive forevermore
(Rev. 4:9-10)

“I hold the keys of death and Hades
(Rev. 20:1)

The Names of Jesus in Revelation:

- ❑ Son of Man (1:13)
- ❑ The Son of God (2:18)
- ❑ The Faithful and True Witness (3:14)
- ❑ The Lion of the tribe of Judah (5:5)
- ❑ The Root of David (5:5)

The Names of Jesus in Revelation:

- Lamb (5:6)
- Shepherd (7:17)
- Messiah (12:10)
- Faithful and True (19:11)
- The Word of God (19:13)

The Names of Jesus in Revelation:

- ❑ King of kings (19:16)
- ❑ Lord of lords (19:16)
- ❑ The Alpha and Omega (22:13)
- ❑ The Morning Star (22:16)

II. The Instruction in the Vision

a) Write:

1. What you saw (Chapter 1)
2. What is now (Chapters 2-3)
3. What will take place (Chapters 4-22)

b) Send it to the Seven Churches

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

1) Ephesus (2:1-7)

a) Commendation – Hard work,
perseverance (2:2-3)

b) Rebuke – Forsaken first love (2:4)

c) Action – “Repent and do the things you
did at first (2:5)

d) Reward – Tree of Life in God’s Paradise (2:7)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

2) Smyrna (2:8-11)

- a) Commendation – endured afflictions and poverty (2:8-9)
- b) Rebuke – None
- c) Action – Don't fear, be faithful (2:10)
- d) Reward – Victor's crown (2:10-11)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

3) Pergamum (2:12-17)

a) Commendation – true to the faith (2:13)

b) Rebuke – tolerate compromise (2:14-15)

c) Action – “Repent” (2:16)

d) Reward –Eternal spiritual nourishment;

a new name (2:17)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

4) Thyatira (2:18-29)

a) Commendation – Love, faith, service,
perseverance (2:19)

b) Rebuke – Tolerate immorality (2:20-25)

c) Action – “Repent” (2:21)

d) Reward – Authority (2:26-29)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

5) Sardis (3:1-6)

- a) Commendation – effective (a façade of being alive) (3:1)
- b) Rebuke – spiritually dead/superficial (3:2)
- c) Action – “Wake up; repent” (3:2)
- d) Reward – ‘acknowledgement before the Father; Book of Life (3:4-6)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

6) Philadelphia (3:7-13)

a) Commendation – Faithful (3:7-8)

b) Rebuke – None

c) Action – “hold on” (3:11)

d) Rewards – “Open doors; honour and recognition; shield and protection; new name, eternity” (3:7; 12-13)

III. The Message to the Seven Churches

7) Laodicea (3:14-22)

a) Commendation – None

b) Rebuke – Lukewarm; wretched, pitiful, poor,
blind and naked (3:14-17)

c) Action – “Be earnest, repent; respond (3:19-20)

d) Reward – being in God’s company (3:21-22)

7 Churches

of

Revelation



Ephesus



Smyrna



Pergamos



Thyatira



Sardis



Philadelphia



Laodicea

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LIVING GOD