

Jesus Evaluates His Churches, Part 10
The Seven Churches – Implications & Impact
Revelation 1 - 3 – 04/10/2016
NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP
<http://NLFJI.org/MSGs>

Christ is Evaluating 7 churches ...

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants - things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John, ² who **bore witness to the word of God**, and to the **testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw**. ³ **Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy**, and **keep** those things which are written in it; for **the time is near**.

⁴ John, to **the seven churches which are in Asia**: (Asia Minor → Western Turkey, today)

Grace to you and peace from Him **WHO IS** and **WHO WAS** and **WHO IS TO COME**, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, ⁵ and from **Jesus Christ**, the **FAITHFUL WITNESS**, the firstborn from the dead, and **the ruler over the kings of the earth**.

To Him who **LOVED** us and **WASHED US FROM OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BLOOD**,⁶ and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 1:1-6

If want to catch up or re-listen/re-study our Previous Messages in this Series, simply go to:

<http://NLFJI.org/7Churches>

What are the IMPLICATIONS of the Seven Churches?

1. **The Entire Book (or scroll) of Revelation is Prophetic.** All 22 chapters.

Therefore, so are **chapters 1 thru 3**.

We explored the **Prophetic Implications**:

Each of the 7 Churches **RELATE** to a certain **“Majority” Type or Model of a Church Movement during** a certain **Time Period** within **Church History**.

Ephesus represents the period of time for Acts 2 (33 A.D. or so) until 70 A.D. or so
‘lost her first love’ – needed to Repent

Smyrna represents the period of time from around 70 A.D. until around 312 A.D. or so
Commended, Applauded, Encouraged – suffered 10 waves of persecution

Pergamos represents the period of time from around 313 A.D. until around 529 A.D. or so
Called to **Repentance** because of Babylonian “Balaam” teachings (idolatry & paganism)
and because they embraced the Nicolaitan model of “religious” leadership

Thyatira represents the period of time from around 530 A.D. until the late 1200’s A.D. or so
Called to Repentance because of JezeBEL’s Babylonian teachings (idolatry & paganism)

Sardis represents the period of time from around 1300 A.D. and continues on today in **Rome**
Called to Repentance because of PRIDE (Name for herself) – Babel’s Pride (ref: Tower)

Philadelphia represents the period of time from late 1300’s A.D. until the Rapture (**Protestants**)
Commended, Encouraged – Open Door for the Gospel – **warned** not to lose her crown
All they had was Jesus Christ, His Word (the Bible) and each other. **That is enough**.

Laodicea represents the period of time from late 1800’s A.D. and continues today (**Lukewarm**)
Called to Repentance because of being Lukewarm Compromised with the World
Jesus is on the outside, knocking on the door (closed door) trying to come back in.
Laodicea is composed of some of the “spiritual descendants” of Philadelphia who lost their crowns. She is the LAST Church Movement to Rise before the Great Tribulation starts.

2. **Christ has the Right to Evaluate** every “church” on the planet, that claims to be of Him. If it says it is a “Christian church” and says that they follow the Bible, then He will evaluate that church.
3. **REPENTANCE** is needed when churches Drift away (Babylonian Drift) ...
Repentance leads us back to Intimacy with Christ, Obedience to Christ, according to His Word
5 Churches were called unto Repentance by Christ – what were their failings?
What were their Rewards for obeying Him unto Repentance?
4. **Christ Encouraged** and Commended (without any call to Repentance) only 2 of the 7 Churches: **Smyrna & Philadelphia – WHY?**
All they had was **The Bible** (God’s Holy Word), **Personal Intimacy with Christ**, and **close fellowship** with each other. They were Bold in Proclaiming God’s Word to the Lost (i.e.: they were **NOT** ashamed of Christ). They were **not SHY** in their Public Relationship with Christ.

The IMPACT of those 7 Churches:

Each “church” is still leaving its mark on Church History and on us today

Ephesus → Encourages us to must make sure we are deeply intimate with Christ, personally

Smyrna → we must be **BOLD** with the Gospel, no matter the consequences - **eternity in focus**

Pergamos / Thyatira / Sardis → (i.e. The Roman Catholic church)

WARNING – if we compromise with Government Dependency, Paganism/Idolatry, and Worldly Power (gaining a Worldly Powerful Name for ourselves) we will end up as a **DEAD** church
The Roman Catholic church’s impact is still being felt, world-wide, today.

Philadelphia → If all we have is Jesus Christ, The Bible, and Each Other – God will bless us with Open Doors for the Gospel – The Protestant Reformation. **Rapture Bound**

LAODICEA → If we care more about “Getting Along” with the world around us, if we care more about “not rocking the boat” or “offending anyone” we will end up being **LUKEWARM** and **Vomited** out of Christ’s Mouth. If we care about (**fill in the blank**) **more than** pleasing and obeying Jesus Christ according to His Word (the Bible) – we will end up being **REJECTED** by Christ and **Called to REPENTANCE**. The Consequence is being here during the Great Tribulation and missing the Rapture (e.g.: “**rejecting sound doctrine**” & “**itching ears**” – 2 Timothy 3:16 – 4:4).

What IMPACT is **your** LIFE having on the folks around you? **Is it what Christ wants?**

What IMPACT is **New LIFE Fellowship** having on the folks around us?

Is it the **IMPACT of the Gospel of Christ**, according to the Bible?

Because of you and/or Us - do folks around us know about **Jesus Christ and His Salvation?**

Are we **SHY** or are we **BOLD** for Him?

What kinds of Churches does Jesus LOVE out of those 7 Churches?

Which ones did He hold up HIGH as EXAMPLES of what He LOVED as being a church?