

the churches of

REVELATION

PRAISE FOR WHO CHRIST IS

Ephesus (2:1-7) - Jesus holds the seven stars (angels) in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lamp stands (churches). Jesus is Immanuel, sovereign over the spiritual realm and over the churches.

Smyrna (2:8-11) - Jesus is the first and the last, who died and who came to life. Jesus is the eternal one who conquered death.

Pergamum (2:12-17) - Jesus has the sharp two-edged sword. Jesus is the decisive word who judges all things perfectly.

Thyatira (2:18-29) - Jesus has eyes like a flame of fire and feet like burnished bronze. Jesus sees all things perfectly and is thoroughly pure.

Sardis (3:1-6) - Jesus has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. Jesus is ever present through the manifold ministry of the Holy Spirit and is able to revive the spiritually dead.

Philadelphia (3:7-13) - Jesus is the holy one, the true one, and holds the keys of David. Jesus gives access to his kingdom.

Laodicea (3:14-22) - Jesus is the Amen, the faithful and true witness, and the beginning of God's creation. Jesus' evaluation is trustworthy and the final word.

OUR WORSHIP, REPENTANCE, AND OBEDIENCE ARE COMPELLED BY OUR
VISION OF JESUS CHRIST AND OUR TAKING HOLD OF HIS PROMISES.

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CONFESSION & REPENTANCE OF SIN

Ephesus (2:1-7) - Abandoning their first love, for Christ and for others. Repent by remembering Christ and doing the things they had done at first out of love for Christ and others.

Smyrna (2:8-11) - No repentance needed. Rejoice for spiritual richness and faithful endurance under persecution.

Pergamum (2:12-17) - Tolerating false teaching and immorality. Repent by rejecting false teaching and guarding sound teaching.

Thyatira (2:18-29) - Tolerating heresy and sexual immorality and lacking discernment. Repent by holding fast and keeping Christ's works until the end.

Sardis (3:1-6) - Spiritual apathy and dead works. Repent by strengthening what remains and keeping the Word they had received at first.

Philadelphia (3:7-13) - No repentance needed. Rejoice for patiently enduring and keeping God's word. Hold fast to what you have.

Laodicea (3:14-22) - Spiritual blindness, spiritual bankruptcy, lukewarmness. Repent of a tepid faith and be zealous for spiritual sight and Christ's righteousness.

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PROMISES FOR THOSE WHO ENDURE

Ephesus (2:1-7) - Will be given the tree of life in paradise to eat.

Smyrna (2:8-11) - Will be given the crown of life and will not be hurt by the second death.

Pergamum (2:12-17) - Will be given hidden manna and a white stone with a new name (identity in Christ and entrance to the kingdom).

Thyatira (2:18-29) - Will be given the morning star (Jesus himself) and authority over the nations with Christ.

Sardis (3:1-6) - Will be clothed in white garments (victory and purity), their names will never be removed from the book of life, and their names will be confessed by Jesus before God.

Philadelphia (3:7-13) - Will be made a pillar in the temple of God (eternal stability), inscribed with the names of God, the new Jerusalem, and Christ

Laodicea (3:14-22) - Will feast with Christ and will be granted to sit with Christ on his throne in the kingdom.