

JESUS CHRIST EXAMINES THREE MORE CHURCHES

Introduction

This chapter concludes Christ's examination of the seven churches in Asia Minor with a report on the spiritual condition of the last three churches. The church in Sardis had a reputation of being alive, but she was dead spiritually. She represents churches that are active with programs in community affairs, but the light of the Gospel barely shines from her. The church in Philadelphia was commended for her faithful testimony of Jesus Christ. She represents the churches that are telling the good news about salvation in Jesus Christ. Laodicea was condemned for her confidence in the things of the world to satisfy her spiritual needs. She represents the churches that depend on wealth, health and physical goods for security. Christ's report on His examination of the seven churches is a clear message on how He will judge all churches and the members in these churches.

Aim of the Lesson: Learn what Christ expects from His churches and what He promises to the overcomers.

He that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches (Rev 3:22)

Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer:

Use one of these words for the blanks to describe each church below: **Faithful; Futile; Faulty**

I. The Church at Sardis: F _____ Reputation (3:1-6)

1. Why is **Leader** a good title for Christ? (3:1)
2. What reputation did the church at Sardis have? (3:1)
3. What did Christ tell this church to do? (3:2-3)
4. How many people were saved in this church? (2:4)
5. What did Christ promise the overcomers (1 Jn 5:4-5)? (2:5)

II. The Church at Philadelphia: F _____ Testimony (3:7-13)

6. Why is **Gatekeeper** a good title for Christ? (3:7)
7. Why was Christ pleased with the testimony of the church at Philadelphia?
8. What would Christ do for this church because they had been faithful to Him in their weakness? (3:9)
9. What else would Christ do for this church? (3:10)
10. How extensive was this hour of trial going to be? (3:10)
11. Who was going to be tried? (3:10)
12. What did Christ promise the overcomers (3:12)

III. The Church at Laodicea: F _____ Confidence (3:14-22)

13. Why is **Witness** a good title for Christ? (3:14)
14. What made the church at Laodicea feel confident? (3:17)
15. How did Christ indicate that these church members were unsaved? (3:18)
16. What was Christ doing to provide salvation for them? (3:20)
17. What promise did Christ give to the overcomers? (3:21)

LISTEN TO THE LORD AND LET HIM TRANSFORM YOUR LIFE.