

The Seven Church Revelation 2—3

To the angel of the church in [*this city*] write:

“The words of him who [*description of Christ from ch. 1*].

I know your works: [*commendation*].

But I have this against you [*rebuke*].

Therefore, repent [*exhortation*].

If you do not [*warning*].

To the one who conquers [*promise*].

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Church	Sender	Commendation	Rebuke	Exhortation	Warning	Promise
Ephesus <i>correct, yet callous</i>	Holds the seven stars in His right hand Walks among the seven lampstands	Your works, toil and patient endurance You cannot bear those who are evil, test and expose false apostles Have not grown weary Hate the works of the Nicolaitans	You have abandoned the love you had at first	Remember from where you have fallen Repent Do the works you did at first	I will come to you Remove your lampstand	Grant to eat of the tree of life in the paradise of God
Smyrna <i>suffering, yet steadfast ¹</i>	He is the first and the last The one who was dead but came to life	Tribulation, poverty Slander from Jews of the synagogue of Satan		Do not fear what you are about to suffer	The devil is about to throw some into prison For ten days you will have tribulation	Be faithful unto death, have crown of life Not be hurt by the second death
Pergamum <i>continuing, yet compromising</i>	He has the sharp double-edged sword	You dwell where Satan’s throne is You hold fast my name Did not deny the faith even when Antipas was killed	Some hold to the teaching of Balaam (eat food sacrificed to idols & sexual immorality) Some hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans	Repent	I will come to you War against them with the sword of my mouth	Give hidden manna Give white stone with new name

¹ Summary descriptions taken from Rick Griffith

Church	Sender	Commendation	Rebuke	Exhortation	Warning	Promise
Thyatira <i>involved, yet immoral</i>	He has eyes like a fiery flame Feet like polished bronze	Your works (love, faith, service, patient endurance) Latter works exceed the first	Tolerate Jezebel (teaching: sexual immorality & eat food sacrificed to idols)	Repent of her works To the rest (who do not...), hold fast until I come	I will throw her onto a sickbed Tribulation for those who commit adultery with her Strike her children dead	Give authority over the nations (rule with rod of iron) Give him the morning star
Sardis <i>distinguished, yet dead</i>	He holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars		Have reputation for being alive, but are dead	Wake up and strengthen what is about to die Remember what you received Repent	I will come against you like a thief	Those who have not soiled their garments will walk with me in white Clothed in white garments Never blot out of book of life Confess name before Father
Philadelphia <i>mistreated, yet mission-minded</i>	He is the Holy One, the True One Who holds the key of David, who opens and no one can shut and shuts and no one can open	You have little power, but have kept my word and not denied my name		(I set before you an open door) Hold fast what you have, that no one may seize your crown		I will make those of the synagogue of Satan bow down before you I will keep you from the hour of trial Make you a pillar in the temple Write on you the name of my God and the name of the New Jerusalem
Laodicea <i>luxurious, yet lukewarm</i>	He is the Amen The faithful and true witness The beginning of God's creation		You are neither cold nor hot You say, "I am rich," but are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, naked	Buy from me gold refined by fire (rich) Buy white garments (naked) Buy salve to anoint eyes (blind) Be zealous and repent	Behold, I stand at the door and knock	Grant to sit with me on my throne