

JESUS' LETTER TO THE DEAD CHURCH Studies in the Revelation

Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy,
and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Revelation 1:3

“And behold, I am coming quickly. Blessed is he who heeds the
words of the prophecy of this book.”

Revelation 22:7

THE FIRST CHURCH OF THE TARES – (AD 1517-Future)

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write:”

Revelation 3:1a

Sardis means: _____

THE DESCRIPTION CHRIST CHOSE FOR HIMSELF:

“He who has the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars, says this...”

Revelation 3:1b

“seven Spirits” represents: _____

Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his
roots will bear fruit. And the...

- (1) Spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him,
- (2) the spirit of wisdom
- (3) and understanding,
- (4) the spirit of counsel
- (5) and strength,
- (6) the spirit of knowledge
- (7) and the fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 1:1-2

“seven stars” represents: _____

“As for the mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand,
and the seven golden lampstands: the seven stars are the angels of the
seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”

Revelation 1:20

THE GOOD STUFF:

THE “NOT SO GOOD”...UH, MAKE THAT “BAD” STUFF:

“I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are
dead...(in what way) for I have not found your deeds completed in the
sight of My God.”
Revelation 3:1c, 2b

Primary Point One:

**This is a group of unrepentant, unregenerate, unsaved sinful
people playing church— surrounded by indifferent Christians.**

THE COMMAND TO THE DEAD CHURCH:

A couple of things to do:

- (1) “Wake up (or be watchful) and...”
- (2) “strengthen the things that remain...”
- (3) “Remember therefore what you have received and heard...”
- (4) “and keep it...”
- (5) “and repent.”
Revelation 3:2a, 3a

“Therefore

- (1) remember from where you have fallen, and
- (2) repent and
- (3) do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will
remove your lampstand out of its place— unless you repent.”
Revelation 2:5

Or else!

“If therefore you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will
not know at what hour I will come upon you.”

Revelation 3:3b

For you yourself know full well that the day of the Lord will come just
like a thief in the night. While they are saying, “Peace and safety!” then
destruction will come upon them suddenly like birth pangs upon a woman
with child; and they shall not escape.
1 Thessalonians 5:2-3

“Behold, I am coming like a thief. Blessed is the one who stays awake
and keeps his garments, lest he walk about naked and men see his shame.”

Revelation 16:15

Question:

Does the fact that Jesus will come like a thief in the night to those who are dead mean, in the reverse, that He will not come like a thief to those who remember, wake up and repent? Is it possible that He will treat the dead and the remnant differently?

A WORD TO THE FAITHFUL REMNANT:

“But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will (what) walk with Me in white; (why) for they are worthy.”
Revelation 3:4b

Then (who) those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD gave attention and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for (who) those who fear the LORD and who esteem His name. “They will be Mine,” says the LORD of hosts, “on the day that I prepare My own possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.” So you will again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.
Malachi 3:16-18

THE "PROMISE" TO THE OVERCOMER:

“He who overcomes shall thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father, and before His angels.” Revelation 3:5

And around the throne were twenty-four thrones; and upon the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white garments, and golden crowns on their heads.
Revelation 4:4

“Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And the I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness’.”
Matthew 7:22-23

“And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man shall confess him also before the angels of God.”
Luke 12:8

THE “EVERYTHING MEANS SOMETHING” PHRASE:

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”
Revelation 3:6