

Revelation 2

[Briefly summarize the main point for each church listed below.]

1. Ephesus: the Lost Love Church (2:1-7)

Identification (2:1) –

Commendation (2:2-3, 6) –

Condemnation (2:4) –

Exhortation (2:5) –

Salvation (2:7) –

2. Smyrna: the Poor Rich Church (2:8-11)

Identification (2:8) –

Commendation (2:9) –

Exhortation (2:10) –

Salvation (2:11) –

3. Pergamum: the False Teaching Church (2:12-17)

Identification (2:12) –

Commendation (2:13) –

Condemnation (2:14-15) –

Exhortation (2:16) –

Salvation (2:17) –

4. Thyatira: the Tolerant Seduced Church (2:18-29)

Identification (2:18) –

Commendation (2:19) –

Condemnation (2:20-21) –

Exhortation (2:22-25) –

Salvation (2:26-29) –

• Digging Deeper

1. Where in Asia Minor are the seven churches located?
2. Who is the “angel of the church” (2:1, 8, 12, 18)?
3. What “coming” of Jesus is referred to in this chapter (2:5, 16, 25)?
4. What do we know about the Nicolaitans (2:6, 15)?

5. What is the “synagogue of Satan” and what is “Satan’s throne” (2:9, 13; 3:9)?

6. What is the “second death” (2:11)?

7. What is not found regarding the church in Smyrna that is found regarding the churches in Ephesus, Pergamum, and Thyatira?

8. Who were Baalam and Balak and where in the OT is their story told (2:14)? Where else in the NT is Baalam mentioned?

9. Where in the OT did God provide manna for the Israelites and what possible meaning can be given to “a white stone” (2:17)?

10. What are we told in the OT about Jezebel (2:20)?

11. How do faithful Christians have authority over the nations (2:26)?

12. What is the morning star (2:28)?

• **Applications for Today**

1. Jesus said seven times: “These things says ...” (2:1, 8, 12, etc.). Jesus reminded each local church of his greatness before he told them what they needed to do. Who is it that we are listening to when we listen to Jesus (Mt. 17:5; Heb. 1:1-4)? What kind of lord and king do we serve (1 Tim. 6:14-16; Rev. 17:14; 19:16)?

2. Jesus said seven times: “I know...” (2:2, 9, 13, 19; 3:1, 8, 15; see especially 2:23). Jesus knows all, good or bad. He knows what takes place in each local church and he will hold each local church accountable. What did Jesus know about some of the Jews of his day (Jn. 5:42) and what did he know about his apostles (Jn. 13:18)?

3. Jesus encouraged the Christians to “overcome” seven times (2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21). It is important to “overcome” whatever obstacle there is on earth in order to go to heaven. Who has already overcome the world (Jn. 16:33; Rev. 3:21; 5:5)? Can Christians overcome evil (Rom. 12:21; 1 Jn. 2:13-14; 4:4; Rev. 12:11)? What is necessary to overcome the world (1 Jn. 5:4-5)? Which Christians will overcome in the end (Rev. 17:14)?

4. Jesus said seven times: “He that has an ear to hear, let him hear...” (2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22). We must hear what the (Holy) Spirit says to the church. We must always keep open eyes, ears, and hearts regarding God’s word. Why do some with ears not hear at all (Mt. 13:13-16; Acts 28:27)?