

Key Words of Revelation 1:1-3

Appendix 1A

REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

Revelation means Manifestation; To be revealed; to take off the cover. This book reveals Jesus Christ, takes off the cover so we can see His person and activities. Read literally, the revelation of Jesus Christ means “**revealing the salvation of Jehovah**”. This being the case, it would be foolish to ignore this book



SHEW UNTO HIS SERVANTS

Shew: Expose to the eyes; to give proof or evidence of a thing

Servants: One who gives himself up to another's will; those whose service is used by Christ in extending and advancing His cause among men.

This suggests that proof or evidence is given to those who are completely surrendered to the cause of Christ. To study this book without giving up your will to Jesus will be fruitless. It will be a sealed book, for it is only revealed to his servants

MUST

Meaning: Necessity established by the counsel and decree of God, especially by that purpose of His which relates to the salvation of men by the intervention of Christ and which is disclosed in the old testament prophecies. The prophecies of this book are unconditional, they will happen and are decreed by the will of God for the salvation of man

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which

must shortly come to pass, and which he

signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

²who bare record of the word of God, and of the

testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he

saw. ³**Blessed** is he that **readeth**, and they that

hear the words of this **prophecy**, and **keep** those

things which are written therein: for the time is at

hand

COME TO PASS

begin to be; appear in history; come upon the stage; be fulfilled

That which is shown to God's servants is that which will appear in history. This tells us that Revelation will use a historical approach. It will reveal what is going to happen in history from the time of John till the establishment of the God's Kingdom after the Second Coming

SIGNIFIED

Meaning: To make known by signs and symbols
We are told here that signs and symbols will be used to describe the book. This must be taken into consideration when studying the book

BLESSED - READ, HEAR, KEEP

Blessed means Happy; Read means To distinguish between ; To recognize; To know accurately; To read. Hear means to hearken; Keep means to observe; hold fast; watch; to attend to carefully.

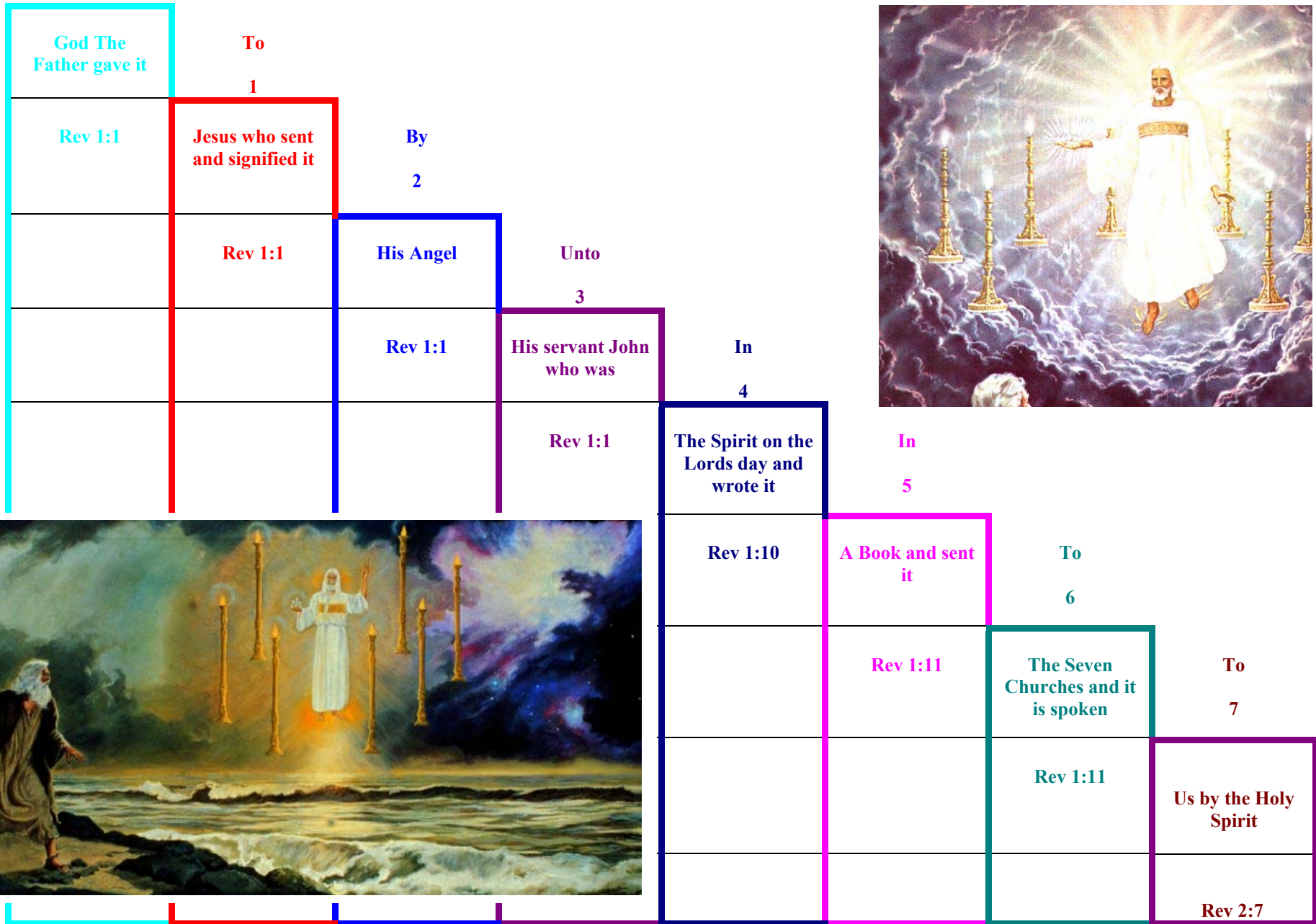
There are three conditions to receive the blessing of Revelation. We must read, learn and know accurately the words of this book and once learnt we must keep and hold fast the things we have learned. Then we will be blessed

PROPHECY

A discourse emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God, whether by reproving and admonishing the wicked, or comforting the afflicted, or revealing things hidden; especially by telling future events


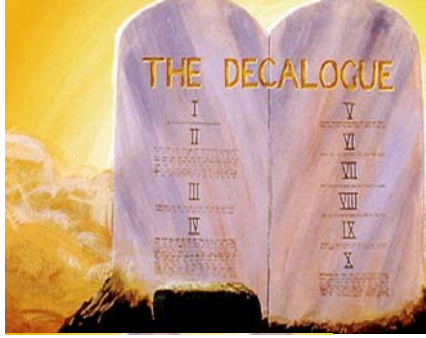
This book is not nice poetry or prose, It is a prophecy declaring the purposes of God, it warns the wicked, comforts the afflicted and reveals the future.

The Seven Steps of the Receiving of the Revelation of Jesus Christ

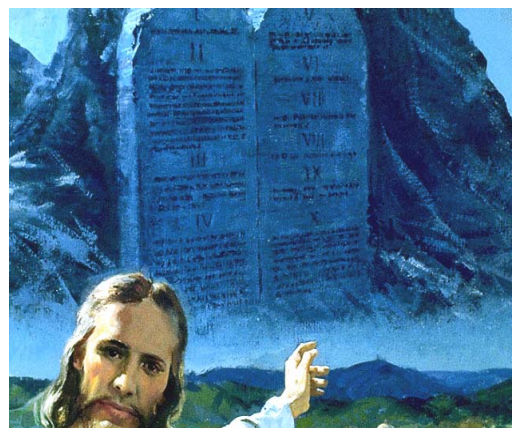


GOD'S LAW EQUALS GOD'S CHARACTER

Appendix 2B

			
God's Character		God's Law	
1. Spiritual	John 4:24	1. Spiritual	Rom 7:14
2. Love	1 John 4:8	2. Love	Matt 22:37-40
3. Truth	John 14:6	3. Truth	Psalms 119:142
4. Righteous	1 Cor 1:30	4. Righteous	Psalms 119:144,172
5. Holy	Isa 6:3	5. Holy	Romans 7:12
6. Perfect	Matt 5:48	6. Perfect	Psalms 19:7
7. Good	Luke 18:19	7. Good	Romans 7:12
8. Just	Deut 32:4	8. Just	Romans 7:12
9. Pure	I John 3:3	9. Pure	Psalms 19:8
10. Unchanging	James 1:17	10. Unchanging	Matt 5:18
11. Stands Forever	Ps 90:2	11. Stands Forever	Ps 111:7,8
12. The Way	John 14:6	12. The Way	Mal 2:7-9
13. Great	Ps 48:1	13. Great	Hosea 8:12
14. Cleanses	Matt 8:3 Ps 57:2	14. Clean	Ezek 22:26

The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make *it* honourable
Isa 42:21



And I know that his commandment is life everlasting
John 12:50

1. JESUS THE FAITHFUL WITNESS, AND THE FIRST BEGOTTEN OF THE DEAD, AND THE PRINCE OF THE KINGS OF THE EARTH

Appendix 3A



Jesus loves us

Jesus is: 1. The faithful witness. Witnesses served in judgement Deut 17:6-8. The high priest was led by God with the use of the Urim and Thummim in the judgement of the people Ex 28:30; Num 20:27,28; 27:21. Jesus was judged Mt 27:19; Isa 53:8 and there were two false witnesses that agreed together when they testified against Him Mt 26:59-62. We must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ who is both our high priest and our judge 2 Cor 5:10; Heb 4:14; Jn 5:22. But the wonderful news about the judgement, which we will study in more detail in later lessons, is: that Jesus who is our best friend, is a merciful and faithful high priest, judge, and witness. He was made in all things like unto us, and is touched



Jesus our faithful witness in the heavenly courtroom

with our infirmities (weaknesses), having been tempted in all points like we are Heb 2:14-18; 4:15, Rev 19:11; 3:14. The Bible says: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." I Jn 1:9. 2. The first begotten of the dead. It was prophesied in Ps 2:7 that Jesus the son would on a certain day become begotten. Acts 13:32,33 tells us that this happened at the resurrection. Jesus is the firstfruits of the dead 1 Cor 15:20, and it is the resurrection of Christ, that through God's abundant mercy, gives us a lively hope 1 Pet 1:3. It is the power of the resurrection Phil 3:10,11, that conquered hell and death Rev 1:18, and will eventually destroy him that had the power over death, that is, the Devil Heb 2:14. Jesus showed through his death; that He is our best friend Jn 15:13. There will be a resurrection of the dead at the Second Coming of Christ 1 Thes 4:13-16. We will then be with Jesus our best friend forever and ever Rev 22:3-5. 3. The prince of the kings of the earth. Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords Rev 19:16; 17:14. Christ is the King of saints Rev 15:3. His kingdom will come into power; when the accuser of the brethren, who is Satan, will be cast down, which will be at the second coming of Christ. Then He shall reign forever and ever Rev 12:9,10; 11:15. It is through the power of the blood of Jesus the lamb that we are redeemed and made kings and priests unto our God Rev 5:9,10; 1:5,6. It is because of the blood that Jesus our best friend shed for us; that made Him worthy to become our King Rev 19:13,16; 5:12,13. Satan is the king of the bottomless pit Rev 9:11. Satan and all the devils that work with him will gather all the wicked kings of this world together to fight against Christ at His second coming Rev 16:13,14. Christ will defeat them at His triumphant Second Coming, and will rescue us out of the hands of Satan. Jesus will also deliver us from all the wicked that follow Satan Rev 19:16-21; 20:1-3.

In summary Jesus is: 1. The Faithful Witness, Judge, and High Priest so that He can forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness so that He can come back the second time to take us home. 2. Christ is: The First Begotten of the Dead so that He can destroy the power of Satan over us, and raise the dead in Christ at the Second Coming. 3. Our best friend is also: The Prince of the Kings of the Earth who was worthy to become our King because of His shed blood. Jesus will defeat Satan the king of the bottomless pit. At Jesus' Second Coming He will make us kings and priests unto God forever and ever.

2. JESUS WHO LOVED US, WASHED US FROM OUR SINS, AND HATH MADE US KINGS AND PRIESTS

1. Loved us. There is no greater love than that shown to us through Jesus laying down His life for us. Jesus' love makes us more than conquerors over sin, self, and Satan Rom 8:37. Nothing in heaven or earth or any other place can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus Rom 8:38,39. The love of God the Father, and the love of the Holy Spirit are demonstrated through Jesus Jn 3:16; Rom 15:30; 8:39. Jesus died for us and loved us even when we were sinners and enemies of His Rom 5:7-10. The Father, and the Holy Spirit through Jesus our best friend have made it impossible to be separated from their wonderful love if we want it that way Rom 8:37-39. 2. Washed us. The saved of the Lord are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb. This is after the Second Coming of Christ. They will all be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, and the fine linen is the righteousness of saints Rev 19:7-9. These symbolic robes are washed symbolically in the blood of the Lamb. He will feed us, dwell with us, and wipe away all our tears Rev 7:14-17. What a wonderful friend Jesus is to wash away all our sins in His own blood Rev 1:5. All we have to do is confess our sins and forsake them and we will be cleansed from all unrighteousness 1 Jn 1:9; Prov 28:13. 3. Made us Kings and Priests. After we are made kings and priests we will reign on the earth Rev 5:10. We will reign for a special period of 1,000 years in the heavenly city Rev 20:4. We will study about the thousand years in a later lesson. After the thousand years we will reign forever and ever on the earth Rev 22:5; 21:1-3. In later lessons we will find out what we will be doing with Jesus and the angels during these two periods.

OUR BODIES LIKE JESUS' GLORIOUS BODY

32. Whose body will our new immortal and incorruptible bodies be like Phil 3:20,21; Lk 24:39-43

Ans: a. For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord _____ Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned _____ unto _____ glorious _____, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. Phil 3:20,21.

Ans: b. Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them *his* _____ and *his* _____. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took *it*, and did _____ before them. Lk 24:39-43

The angels told the disciples that the same Jesus that appeared to them after His resurrection would come back for them Acts 1:9-11. He had flesh and bones that could be seen and felt Lk 24:39-43. We will have beautiful bodies just like His Phil 3:20,21.

ANGELS AS CLOUDS

Appendix 3B

6. Jesus will come with clouds Rev 1:7. Who are sometimes signified as clouds or chariots? Ps 104:3,4; 68:17.

Ans: a. who maketh the _____ his _____: who walketh upon the wings of the wind: Who maketh his _____ spirits; his ministers a flaming fire Ps 104:3,4:



The Angels gather God's people to take them into the air where they meet Jesus



Angels as God's ministering spirits come to gather us home at the Second Coming of Christ

Ans: b. The _____ of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of _____: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place. Ps 68:17

Angels are sometimes symbolized as clouds and chariots. Chariots of fire and horses of fire are one way that angels appear on certain occasions 2 Kings 2:11;6:15-17; Ps 34:7; Heb 1:14; Ps 104:3,4. The phrase the wings of the wind found in this verse is another symbolic term for angels found in the Bible Ps 104:3,4; 2 Sam 22:11; Ps 18:10. They are also called his ministers Heb 1:7,13,14; Ps 104:3,4. Spirits is also a Biblical description of the angels of God Heb 1:7,13,14; Ps 104:3,4. Flaming fire is one way angels appear; either in a flame of fire, or looking like a flame of fire, or as noticed earlier as chariots of fire, and horses of fire Ex 3:2; Judges 13:20; Acts 7:30; Heb 1:7; Ps 104:3,4.

7. How many angels will come with Jesus at the Second Coming? Mt 25:31

Ans: When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and _____ the holy _____ with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

8. What work will the angels be involved with at the Second Coming of Christ? Mt 24:31

Ans: And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall _____ together his _____ from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The end of the world is likened to a harvest and the angels as reapers Mt 13:39 They will carry us up to meet Christ in the air 1 Thes 4:16-18.

GLORY AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

12. There is a threefold glory that Jesus will come in. What is it? Lk 9:26

Ans: For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in _____ own glory, and in his _____, and of the holy _____.

13. There was one angel that came to roll back the stone from the door of Jesus' tomb. What affect did his brightness have on the centurion guard that kept the tomb? Mt 28:2-4

Ans: And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like _____, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as _____ men.

14. If one Angel's brightness had such an affect on the Centurion soldiers what will be the affect of the glory of Father, the Son, and all the Holy Angels on the wicked? 2 Theses 2:8

Ans: And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall _____ with the _____ of his coming:



Soldiers as dead men at the brightness of the angel that called Jesus from the tomb

FIRE AT THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

Appendix 3C

17. How will God take vengeance on them that don't know Him at the Second Coming of Christ? 2 Thes 1:7,8

Ans: And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In _____ taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

18. Something will accompany the fire of the Second Coming of our best friend Jesus. What is it? Ps 50:3

Ans: Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before him, and it shall be very _____ round about him.

19. How big is the fire that will be burning at the Second Coming? 2 Pet 3:12 How shall we survive the fire that burns before Jesus at his Second Coming? Will we get burnt? Isa 43:2



The elements will be on fire at the Second Coming of Christ



The atmosphere on fire at the Second Coming and God's people are protected in the fire like Shadrach Meshach and Abednego

Ans: a. Looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the _____ being on _____ shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 2 Pet 3:12

Ans: b. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the _____, thou shalt not be _____; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. Isa 43:2

Before we are caught up with the angels to meet Jesus in the air; we will be surrounded and in the middle of fire. The whole atmosphere itself will be on fire, and God Himself is a consuming fire Deut 4:24; 9:3; Heb 12:29. There is a fiery stream that issues and comes before Him Dan 7:10. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were cast into a burning fiery furnace, and the fire had no power over their bodies. In fact the hair of their head wasn't even singed Dan 3:21-28. God has power to protect us from the fire Dan 3:25.

20. What happens to the wicked when the fire goes before the Lord? Ps 97:3

What else comes with the fire which also can be quite destructive? Ps 97:4

Ans : a. A fire goeth before him, and _____ - _____ his enemies round about. Ps 97:3

Ans: b. His _____ enlightened the world: the earth saw, and trembled. Ps 97:4

Fire and lightning will encircle the world at the Second Coming of Christ.

EXTRA INFORMATION ON THE SECOND COMING

27. Who will proclaim a great noise at the Second Coming? Heb 12:26; 1 Thes 4:16,17; Ps 47:2-5

Ans: a. Whose _____ then _____ the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven. Heb 12:26

Ans: b. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a _____, with the voice of the archangel, and with the _____ of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thes 4:16,17

Ans: c. For the LORD most high *is* terrible; *he is* a great King over all the earth. He shall subdue the people under us, and the nations under our feet. He shall choose our inheritance for us, the excellency of Jacob whom he loved. Selah. God is gone up with a _____, the LORD with the sound of a _____. Ps 47:2-5

At the Second Coming of Christ His voice will shake the heavens and the earth. There will be a great trumpet blast. The righteous dead will even hear the voice of Christ when He comes and will be cast forth from the earth Isa 26:19 Jn 5:25,28,29.

28. Will we be afraid when Jesus comes with His reward for the righteous and the wicked and they are being destroyed all around us by all the events we have just studied in this lesson? Ps 91:5-8

Ans: Thou shalt not be _____ for the terror by night; *nor* for the arrow *that* flieth by day; *Nor* for the pestilence *that* walketh in darkness; *nor* for the destruction *that* wasteth at noonday. A _____ shall fall at thy side, and _____ at thy right hand; *but* it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the _____ of the _____.

Jesus said that His return would be just as it was in the days of Noah when he was in the ark and the flood came and took them all away Mt 24:37-39. His Second Coming was also likened to the days of Lot when the wicked were destroyed right around them Lk 17:25-30. But Noah and Lot were not harmed by the destruction around them, and we have nothing to fear either if we remain close to our best friend Jesus who is coming to take us home Isa 41:10; Ps 46:1-11.

Sequence of Events at The Second Coming



1. Jesus Returns

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God...

1Thess 4:16



2. Righteous Dead Raised

and the dead in Christ shall rise first:...

1 Thess 4:16



3. Living Saints Caught Up

Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air:

1 Thess 4:17



4. Wicked Slain

And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:

2 Thes 2:8



5. Satan Bound

And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

Rev 20:2



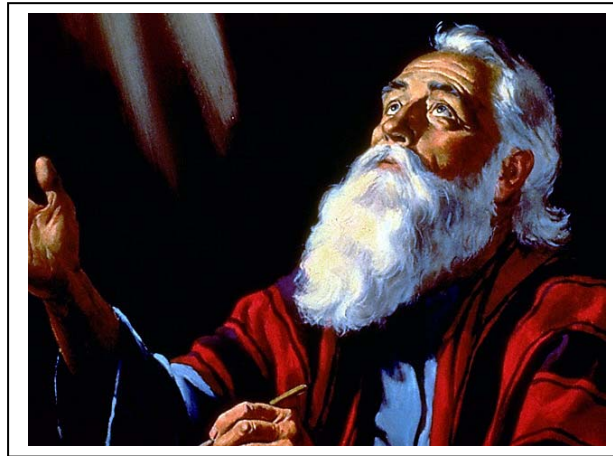
6. Earth Desolate

I beheld, and, lo, *there was* no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place *was* a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, *and* by his fierce anger.

Jer 4:25,26

Summary of Introduction to Revelation

Appendix 4A



		1	2	3	Verse
1	God's Revelation of Jesus	Gave	Sent	Signified	Rev 1:1
2	What came through John	↓ Word of God	↓ Testimony of Jesus Christ	↓ All that he saw	Rev 1:2
3	Requested actions to Message	Read	Hear	Keep	Rev 1:3
4	Revelation from	Father	Spirit	Son	Rev 1:4,5
5	The Father as	The one which is	Which was	Which is to come	Rev 1:4
6	Jesus who is	The Faithful Witness <i>Who</i> ↓	The First Begotten of the dead <i>Who</i> ↓	The Prince of the kings of the earth <i>Who</i> ↓	Rev 1:5
7	What Jesus has done for the Righteous	Loved us	Washed us from our sins in His blood	Made us kings and priests unto God	Rev 1:5,6
8	How the wicked will respond to Jesus' coming	Every eye shall see Him	They also which pierced Him	All kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him	Rev 1:7
9	Authority of Jesus to do this	Alpha & Omega	Beginning & Ending	The Almighty	Rev 1:8
		Which is	Which was	Which is to come	
10	Credentials of John	Brother and Companion in Tribulation	Kingdom & Patience of Jesus	Word of God and Testimony of Jesus	Rev 1:9



JESUS IN REVELATION 1

THE FOUNDATION OF

THE WHOLE BOOK

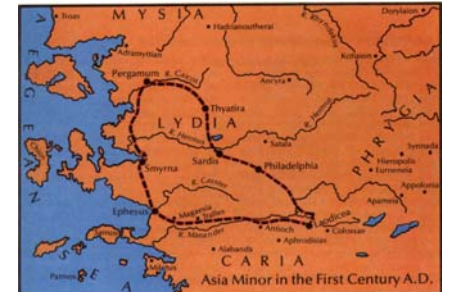
Appendix 4B

TEXT	1. DESCRIPTION OF JESUS REVELATION CHAPTER 1	TEXT	2. SAME NAME OR TITLE ELSEWHERE IN THE BOOK	JESUS' WORK FOR US TAKEN FROM BOTH COLUMNS
Rev 1:1, 2,5,9	The Revelation of Jesus Christ, Testimony of Jesus Christ, Patience of Jesus Christ.	Rev 12:17; 22:21	Testimony of Jesus Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ	PROPHET PRIEST
Rev 1:1, 2,5,9	JESUS – Revelation of Jesus, Testimony of Jesus, Faithful Witness, First Begotten of the Dead, Prince of the Kings of the Earth, Kingdom and Patience of Jesus Christ	Rev 12:17; 14:12; 17:6; 19:10; 20:4; 22:16,20,21	Faith of Jesus Martyrs of Jesus Testimony of Jesus is Spirit of Prophecy Witness of Jesus I Jesus testify Grace of Jesus	PROPHET, WITNESS, ADVOCATE (faithful witness), CONQUERER OF DEATH, PRINCE, KING, SAVIOUR, PROVIDER OF FAITH, PROVIDER OF COURAGE (at death), TESTIFIES
Rev 1:2,9	Jesus the Word of God	Rev 6:9; 20:4; 19:13	Saints slain for the Word of God, Jesus destroys wicked by His word.	JUDGE (Investigative) JUDGE (executive)
Rev 1:2,9	Testimony of Jesus	Rev 6:9; 2:17; 9:10; 22:9	Saints slain for the Testimony of Jesus, object of Satan's wrath	PROPHET
Rev 1:4	The Seven Spirits (Jesus' gift)	Rev 3:1	Jesus has the Seven Spirits	PROVIDER of the Holy Spirit
Rev 1:5	Jesus the Faithful Witness	Rev 3:14	Jesus the Faithful and True Witness	Faithful JUDGE
Rev 1:5 Rev 1:18	First begotten of the dead, I am he that liveth and was dead	Rev 2:8	Jesus which was dead, and is alive	COMFORTER (in trying circumstances)
Rev 1:5, 6	Prince of the kings of the earth	Rev 5:10	Jesus has made us kings	PRINCE
Rev 1:7	Behold Jesus cometh with clouds	Rev 14:14	Jesus comes on a white cloud	JUDGE (of the wicked and) REAPER (of the Righteous)
Rev 1:7	All kindreds of the earth wail at the judgements from Jesus	Rev 18:15,19	Wailing because of the Judgements of Jesus on Babylon	JUDGE of Babylon
Rev 1:8, 11	Jesus the Alpha and Omega	Rev 21:6; 22:13	Jesus the Alpha and Omega	COMFORTER - ETERNAL
Rev 1:8	Jesus the Beginning and the End	Rev 21:6; 22:13	Jesus the Beginning and the End	COMFORTER - ETERNAL
Rev 1:8	Which is, and which was, and which is to come	Rev 16:5	Jesus which art, and wast, and shalt be	JUDGE (executive)
Rev 1:8	Jesus the Almighty	Rev 16:7	Jesus as Lord God Almighty	JUDGE (executive)
Rev 1:13	And in the midst of the seven candlesticks	Rev 2:1	Jesus walks in the midst of the candlesticks	HEAD OF THE CHURCH
Rev 1:13	Son of Man	Rev 14:14	Jesus the Son of man	DELIVERER (second coming)
Rev 1:14	Eyes were as a flame of fire	Rev 19:12	Jesus with eyes as a flame of fire	JUDGE (executive)
Rev 1:15	Feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace	Rev 10:1	Jesus' feet as pillars of fire	MESSENGER (Spreading Gospel) HIGH PRIEST (Judgement message)
Rev 1:16	And He had in His right hand seven stars	Rev 2:1; 3:1	Jesus holds seven stars	PROTECTOR (of the churches)
Rev 1:16	And out of His mouth went a sharp twoedged sword	Rev 19:15, 20; 13:10	Jesus destroys the wicked	JUDGE (executive)
Rev 1:16	And his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength	Rev 10:1	Jesus face was as it were the sun	MESSENGER (to all the world)
Rev 1:11, 17	I am the first and the last	Rev 2:8; 22:13	Jesus is the first and the last in everything including our salvation	COMFORTER - ETERNAL
Rev 1:18	I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore.	Rev 2:8	Jesus was dead and is alive	CONQUERER OF DEATH
Rev 1:18	Amen	Rev 3:14	Assurance of eternal life and all good things.	CONQUERED ALL
Rev 1:18	And have the keys of hell and death	Rev 20:13, 14; 21:4	Jesus has the keys of hell and death	CONQUERER OF DEATH



Christ's Messages to the Seven Churches

Appendix 5A



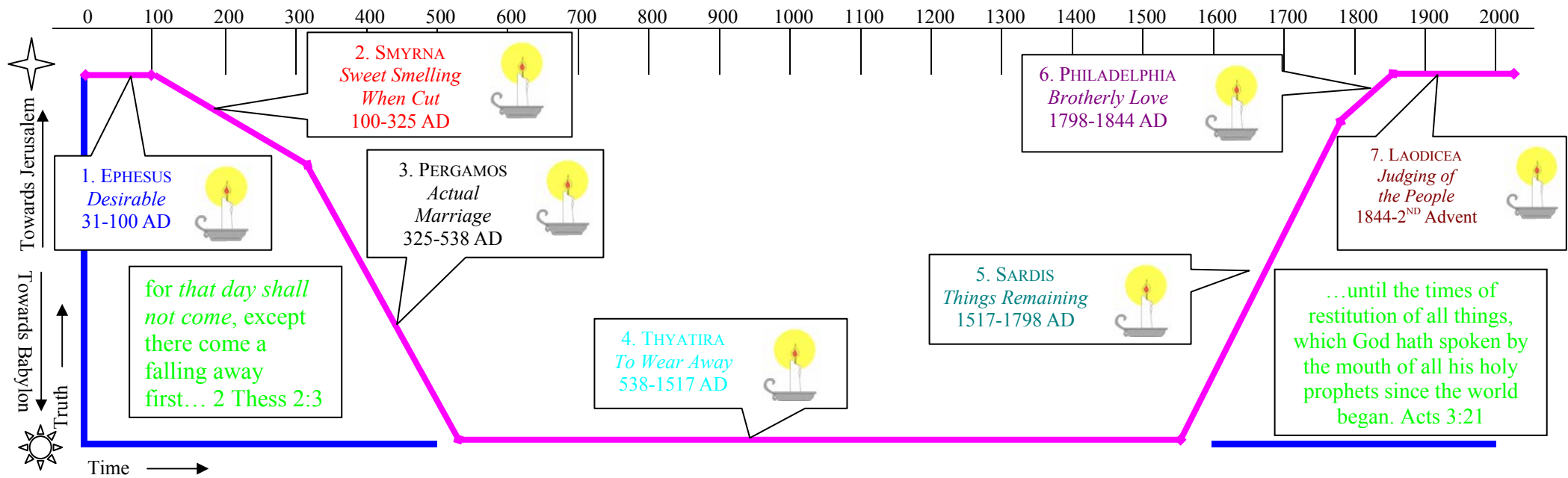
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PERIOD	31-100 AD	100-325 AD	325-538 AD	538-1517 AD	1517-1798 AD	1798-1844 AD	1844-To End
Description of Christ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds 7 Stars • Walks among 7 candle sticks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First & Last • Was dead and is Alive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has Sharp two edged Sword 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Son of God • Flaming Eyes • Feet of Brass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holds 7 Spirits • And 7 Stars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holy and True • Key of David • Opens & Shuts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amen • True Witness • Ruler of Creation
Christ Knows	Works Labour Patience	Works Tribulation Poverty	Works Dwelling where Satan's seat is.	Works Faith Service Patience	Works	Works	Works False Claims True Condition
Praise	Can't bear Evil Test Teachers Hate Nicolaitanes	You Are Rich	Hold fast My Name Not denied the faith	Last Works better than the first	A few have not defiled their garments	Kept My word Not denied My name	
Rebuke	Left First Love		Some Baalaamites And Nicolaitanes	Tolarates Jezebel Wont Repent	Works Imperfect Seems alive but dead		Lukewarm Poor, Blind Naked
Counsel	Repent!, Remember Return to First love And First works	Don't Fear Be Faithful unto death	Repent!	Repent!	Repent! Remember! Awake! Strengthen!	Hold Fast!	Repent! Buy! Open!
Warning	I Will Remove Candlestick		I will make war	Sickbed Great Tribulation Death	I will come as a thief		I will Spue out
False Jews		Slander You				Will Worship At your feet	
Promise/Reward	Eat from tree of life	Crown of Life	Hidden Manna White Stone New Name	Rod to Rule Nations Morning Star	White garments Walk with Me Confess Name Not Blot out	Pillar in Temple Name of God written on them City of new Name	Sup with Me Sit with Me on throne



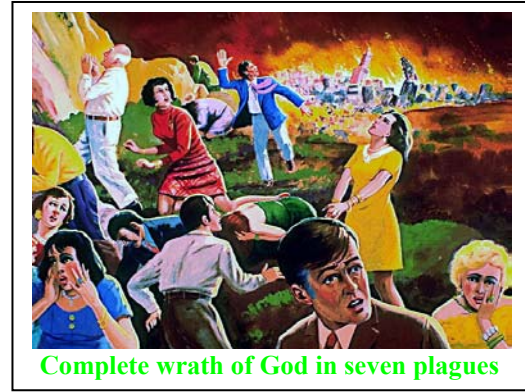
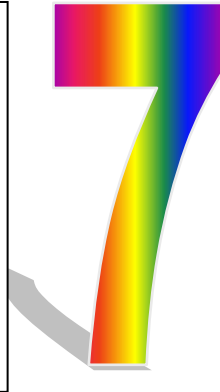
The Seven Churches in History



Appendix 5B



The Significance of Seven in the Bible



Appendix 5C

Complete Creation	And on the seventh day God ended (Completed/Finished) his work.	Gen 2:2
Complete Submission	And he passed over before them, and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother	Gen 33:1
Complete Witness	For <i>these</i> seven ewe lambs shalt thou take of my hand, that they may be a witness unto me	Gen 21:30
Complete Mourning	and there they mourned with a great and very sore lamentation: and he made a mourning for his father seven days.	Gen 50:10
Complete Atonement	And he shall take of the blood of the bullock, and sprinkle <i>it</i> with his finger upon the mercy seat eastward; and before the mercy seat shall he sprinkle of the blood with his finger seven times.	Lev 16:14
Complete Sacrifice	And ye shall offer with the bread seven lambs without blemish of the first year	Lev 23:18
Complete Rejoicing	ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.	Lev 23:40
Complete Cleansing	And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.	2 Kings 5:10
Complete Binding	And Samson said unto her, If they bind me with seven green withs (Cords) that were never dried, then shall I be weak, and be as another man.	Judges 16:7
Complete Possession	And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,	Luke 8:2
Complete Work of Holy Spirit	John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace <i>be</i> unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;	Rev 1:4
Complete Power (Seven Horns)	and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.	Rev 5:6
Complete Knowledge (Seven Eyes)	and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth	Rev 5:6
Whole Church in God's Hands (Seven Stars)	And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.	Rev 1:16
Complete Wrath of God	And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.	Rev 15:1

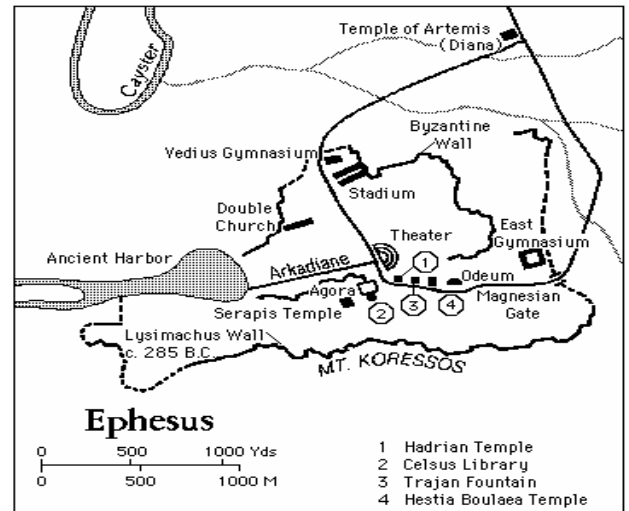
Historical Information on Ephesus

Appendix 5 D



The marble paved Arcadian way looking from the amphitheatre at ancient Ephesus

Ephesus was the most important city in the Roman province of Asia, on the West Coast of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It was situated at the mouth of the Cayster River between the mountain range of Coressus and the sea. A magnificent road 11 metres wide and lined with columns ran down through the city to the fine harbour, which served both as a great export centre at the end of the Asiatic caravan-route and also as a



natural landing-point from Rome. It became the greatest commercial city of the Roman province of Asia. It then occupied a vast area, and its population may have numbered a third of a million. It is estimated that the great theatre built into Mt Pion in the centre of the city had a capacity of about 25,000.

This site was originally sacred to the worship of the Anatolian fertility goddess, later identified with Greek Artemis and Latin Diana (different names for the same goddess).

A port city of western Asia Minor, Ephesus lay between Smyrna and Miletus. After dedicating a sacred precinct to Rome and Caesar in 29 B.C., Ephesus enjoyed the height of its prosperity in the first and second centuries A.D. as the fourth largest city in the Empire. As the harbour silted up, the city declined in the Byzantine period (ca. fifth to tenth centuries A.D.), but a new wall and churches were built. The Turkish town of Seljuk today is the sixth city on the site.

Them That Say They Are APOSTLES And Are Not

One heresy of the Church of that period of History that Ephesus represented (A.D.31-A.D.100) was the teaching of the Gnostics. This group was influenced by the Greek culture, which Alexander the Great had begun to spread throughout the then known world. They were interested in knowledge and wisdom, which would prepare them for the after life. They were also influenced by Persian Dualism in their teachings and beliefs. Dualism was adopted by the Greeks and then by the Gnostics.

Gnosticism is a term derived from the Greek word *gnosis* 'knowledge' (See 1 Cor 1:18-30) and comes from Greek or Hellenistic thought in which dualism of one sort or another was often a prominent feature. Dualism was the belief that the created world was evil, and was totally separate from and in opposition to the world of spirit. The supreme God dwelt in unapproachable splendour in this spiritual world, and had no dealings with the world of matter. God was not a literal being because he would then have to be evil. God according to their philosophy was an invisible force. Matter was the creation of an inferior being, the *Demiurge*. He, along with his helpers the *archons*, kept mankind imprisoned within their physical bodies, and barred the path of individual souls trying to ascend to the spirit world after death. The Gnostic teaching of a persons' relationship to God lead to a denial of the importance of the person and work of Christ. If Christ had a body (which had to be evil because all matter is evil) they did not believe He could be God. Salvation was not understood in terms of deliverance from sin, but in discovering about one's self (See Prov 18:2). This philosophy is reflected today in New Age and Eastern religions which do not follow the Biblical account in their understanding of God and Christ.

Gnosticism though it varied in belief with their different factions and leaders, was much closer to the Eastern Religions, which stem from Zoroastrianism than it is to traditional Christianity.

Both Christ's deity and humanity were challenged by this early Gnostic-like heresy. Those heretics diminished Christ to an angel whose "body" was only apparent, not real. Paul affirmed that Christ is both fully God and truly man Phil 2:5-8; 1 Tim 3:16; Titus 3:4; Heb 1:8; 2:14-18. John also taught powerfully both the Divinity and Humanity of Christ Jn 1:1-3,14; 5:18,23; 1 Jn 4:1-6. John was, according to tradition, the pastor of the local Church of Ephesus. His strong statements about the Divinity and the Humanity of Christ no doubt reflected some of the conflict that the church members had with the Gnostic heresy. The religions or individuals today that deny the Deity of Christ reflect some of the thoughts of ancient Gnosticism, and later Arian teachings. The warning to the Church of Ephesus is most important to us as we face these similar teachings that do not have the support of the word of God.



Diana ancient fertility god of Ephesus

AND THY LABOUR

And thy Labour. Labour is a similar word to work. There is an added dimension to labour because it (Greek *κόπος* kopos = trouble, weariness, sorrow, a beating of the breast in grief, labour) includes trouble, weariness, and sorrow. **1.** There is a reward for labour as also for works 1 Cor 3:8; Rev 22:12. **2.** Labour is never in vain when working for Jesus 1 Cor 15:58. **3.** Labour is according to God's working in us Col 1:29. **4.** The motive for labour is love 1 Thes 1:3; Heb 6:10. **5.** Labour is accompanied sometimes with travail and suffering 1 Thes 2:9; 2 Thes 3:8; 1 Tim 4:10. **6.** Teaching the word of God to others is called labour 1 Tim 5:17. **7.** In Hebrews we are admonished to labour to enter into God's rest Heb 4:11. This gives us a picture of the character of the faithful members through this period of History that Ephesus was a symbol of.

THE CHARACTER OF EPHESUS

Appendix 5 E

The word Ephesus has the interesting meaning of “Desirable”.

1. The Ephesians had a love for hearing the word of God preached Acts 18:18-21.
2. They had members that knew the word very well. Members of the Ephesian Church were able to teach even some very great preachers such as Apollos Acts 18:24-26. Apollos was mighty in the scriptures, so this was an indication of the high standard of instruction that they had received from Paul, who established the church at Ephesus Acts 18:18,19.
3. Men in this church, filled with the Holy Spirit, were able to prophesy and speak in different languages Acts 19:5-7.
4. In the church of Ephesus the word of God prevailed even against spiritualistic arts Acts 19:13-20.
5. They were interested in spreading the gospel through evangelism to other places Acts 18:27,28.
6. They turned away from false Gods Acts 19:26,27.
7. They had heard all the counsel of God Acts 20:17-27.
8. Among their members were those that were faithful to Christ Eph 1:1.
9. The word of God was magnified (to make great) by the members of this Church Acts 19:17.
10. The work of God went ahead in Ephesus in spite of persecution and opposition Acts 19:23-41; 1 Cor 16:8,9. This was indeed a Desirable Church.



Facade of the library of Celsus in ruins of Ephesus

The first period of history of the Seven Churches that corresponded to the spiritual condition of the Church at Ephesus, is 31 A.D. to 100 A.D. in the time of the Apostles of Christ.



Odeum Concert Theatre on the top of the hill at Ephesus

1. The Apostles loved to hear the word of God like the members of Ephesus did Jn 6:67-69; Mk 4:33,34.
2. The Apostles knew the word of God very well even as the members in Ephesus. In fact the church was built on the teachings of the Apostles and prophets Eph 2:19-22.
3. They were filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesied, and spoke with other languages, as they did in Ephesus Acts 2:1-8; Eph 2:20. John was an apostle who wrote Revelation, the gospel of John, and the three epistles of John. The most amazing prophecy in the Bible is The Revelation of Jesus Christ written to the Seven Churches Rev 1:1-4.
4. The Apostles also taught against spiritualistic influences of Devils as did the Ephesus Church 1 Tim 4:1.
5. The gospel was spread everywhere by public evangelism of which the church of Ephesus were also active in supporting Acts 8:4,5; 14:2-7; 21:8; 2 Tim 4:5.
6. The Apostles like the people of Ephesus turned people from idols and false gods 1 Cor 8:1-7; 10:7; Eph 5:5; 1 Thes 1:9; 1 Jn 5:21.
7. The Apostles taught all the counsel of God just as was taught to the Ephesians Acts 1:1.
8. The apostles were also faithful like at Ephesus, most of them even to their martyrdom 1 Cor 7:25; 1 Tim 1:12; 2 Tim 4:7,8.
9. The Apostles, as in Ephesus magnified the word of God, so that the whole world heard the Gospel in their lifetime Rom 16:26; Col 1:5,6,23.
10. The Apostles when doing the work of God suffered persecution and opposition, as did the Ephesians Acts 8:1-8; 11:18-21; 22:21,22; 23:13,14; 1 Cor 15:30; 2 Cor 11:23-26; Gal 4:29; 5:11. This was a period of History when the Church was in a Desirable spiritual condition, especially at the early stages

I know thy works. This phrase is used seven times in the messages to the Seven Churches.

1. Jesus wants our good works to shine before men to glorify God Mt 5:16; 1 Pet 2:12.
2. Wonderful works do not prove that the person doing them is genuine Mt 7:21-23.
3. When Jesus comes back the second time He will reward every man according to his works, some good, some bad Mt 16:27; Rev 22:12; 2 Tim 4:14; 2 Cor 5:10.
4. The believer in Christ will do even greater works than those that Christ did Jn 14:12.
5. Good works show that we have truly repented Acts 26:20.
6. Grace is given before good works are demonstrated in the life Rom 11:6.
7. We are not justified by works without faith other wise it is dead works Gal 2:16; Rom 2:13; Heb 6:1; 9:13,14.
8. We are not saved by works but by grace through faith Eph 2:8-10; 2 Tim 1:9; Titus 3:5.
9. Works of darkness are to be shunned and reproved by the believer in Christ Eph 5:11.
10. Wicked works make us enemies in our mind to God Col 1:19-23.
11. The Word of God furnishes (Greek *εξαρτινω* *exartizo* to accomplish -enables us to accomplish) all good works. 2 Tim 3:15-17.
12. Evil works cause us to deny Christ Titus 1:16.
13. Those that love God will be zealous (Greek *ζηλωτης* *zelotes* eagerly desirous of doing) good works Titus 2:14.
14. Those that believe in God maintain their good works so that they will not be unfruitful Titus 3:8,14.
15. Our works without Christ are of no value, but God must work in us as we co-operate with Him Heb 4:10; Phil 2:12,13.
16. It is the duty of the Christian to provoke other believers to love and good works Heb 10:24.
17. Faith without works is dead James 2:14-26.
18. Faith when it is accompanied by good works will justify us, because it shows God working in us James 2:14-26; Phil 2:12,13.
19. Jesus came to destroy the works of the Devil (sin) in our lives 1 Jn 3:8,9.
20. Those that are evil in their works will kill those that are doing good works 1 Jn 3:12.
21. Christians are admonished to keep the works of Jesus unto the end Rev 2:26.
22. If our works are not perfect before God we are likely to die spiritually Rev 3:1,2.
23. The works of those that love Jesus follow them after they die Rev 14:13.
24. All the works of the good and bad are written in the books of judgement, and they will be judged according to their works Eccl 12:13,14; Rev 20:12,13. Our good works cannot save us, but we cannot be saved without them either, because it is the evidence of God working in us by His grace Phil 2:13; Eph 2:8-10. This is why Jesus always investigates the works of every individual in every Church period through until the end. All their works are recorded in the books of judgement and every sin must be repented of. Five of the Seven Churches had things to be repented of Rev 2:5,16,21,22; 3:3,19. When our sins are repented of they can be blotted out forever (Acts 3:19) and Jesus will be able to take us into the Heavenly home He has prepared for us Jn 14:1-3. This is why Jesus our best friend is so interested in our works.



Ruins of Agora market place of Ephesus

PATIENCE AND REPENTANCE

Appendix 5 F

And thy patience. “Patience” when looking at the Greek dictionary (παύσησις) means *cheerful or hopeful endurance or waiting*. Patience is characteristic of a man who is not swerved from his deliberate purpose and his loyalty to faith and piety by even the greatest trials and sufferings. He is steadfast and constant under all circumstances. **1.** Patience is the character quality by which our souls are possessed (Greek = κταμαι ktaimai = obtain, purchase, provide, acquire, or to procure a thing for one’s self) Lk 21:19. **2.** It is tribulation (Greek = θλίψις thlipsis = affliction, anguish, persecution, distress, oppression, troubled, or burdened) that brings patience Rom 5:3. **3.** Patience brings experience and hope. Rom 5:4. **4.** The God of patience and consolation helps us to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus Rom 15:5. **5.** Ministers of God approve themselves through patience, afflictions, distresses and other testing experiences 2 Cor 6:4-10. **6.** The glorious power of God strengthens us with all might for all patience and longsuffering with joy. Col 1:11. **7.** Patience of Hope in our Lord Jesus Christ without ceasing is a commendable way 1 Thes 1:2,3. **8.** Patience and faith work together to help us through persecutions and tribulations 2 Thes 1:4. **9.** Through faith and patience, after the believer has done the will of God, he inherits the promises Heb 6:12-15. **10.** Looking to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith inspires us to run with patience the race of life that is set before us Heb 12:1,2. **11.** The trying of our faith brings patience James 1:3. **12.** When patience has done its perfect work the believer is perfect and entire wanting nothing James 1:4. **13.** The prophets are an example of suffering affliction and patience James 5:10. **14.** Job is a good example of patience, and his experience demonstrates how the Lord is pitiful, and of tender mercy, bringing happiness when the trials are endured James 5:11. **15.** Patience when added to temperance with other spiritual virtues, prevents us from becoming unfruitful in the Lord 2 Pet 1:5-8. **16.** Jesus’ kingdom is based on patience Rev 1:9. **17.** God’s word is also based on patience Rev 3:10. **18.** The saints that are alive at the time of the beast power of Revelation wait patiently for the captivity and destruction of that power. Rev 13:10. **19.** The saints that patiently endure the persecution of the beast and his image keep the commandments of God and have the faith of Jesus Rev 13:10. **20.** God’s people do not fret because evil men prosper but wait patiently for the Lord Ps 37:7. **21.** If we wait patiently for the Lord he will answer our prayers even if He sometimes says wait Ps 40:1; Ps 27:14. **22.** Those that hear the word of God and keep it bring forth fruits in their lives with patience Lk 8:15 See also Rev 1:3. **23.** Those who through patient continuance in well doing seek for glory, honour, immortality, and eternal life will receive the reward of God Rom 2:5-7. **24.** The Bible encourages us to be patient to all men 1 Thes 5:14. **25.** Those that love God wait patiently for His return 2 Thes 3:5; James 5:8. **26.** If when the people of God suffer, even for doing good and take it patiently, this is acceptable with God 1 Pet 2:20.



Arcadian way Ephesus



The market place and central part of old Ephesus

evil they have done against us, God cannot forgive us Lk 17:3,4; Mt 6:14,15. **11.** Jesus told his disciples that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in all nations Lk 24:47. **12.** Repentance and baptism are necessary for the gift of the Holy Spirit Acts 2:36-38. **13.** Repentance and conversion are needed to have our sins blotted out Acts 3:19. **14.** Repentance is a gift of God Acts 5:30,31; 2 Tim 2:25. **15.** The beginning of eternal life begins with repentance Acts 11:18. **16.** The reason why all people need to repent is because of the judgement Acts 17:30,31. **17.** The baptism of repentance by itself is not enough without Jesus and the Holy Spirit Acts 19:1-6. **18.** Repentance is to be to God and faith is to Jesus Acts 20:21. **19.** Repentance should include turning to God with good works following afterwards Acts 26:20. **20.** It is God’s goodness that leads us to repentance. Rom 2:4. **21.** There is a type of repentance that needs to be repented of (Judas Mt 27:4), but godly sorrow brings salvation 2 Cor 7:10. **22.** God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 2 Pet 3:9. **23.** Repentance is mentioned seven times in the Seven Churches Rev 2:5,16,21,22; 3:3,19 and eleven times altogether in the book of Revelation Rev 9:20,21; 16:9,11. **24.** The reason for repentance is to bring glory to God Rev 16:9.

Repentance. Repentance in the Greek original is “μετάνοια = metanoia” that means to change one’s mind for the better, to heartily amend with abhorrence of one’s past sins. This a total change of mind that will lead the one who really loves Jesus to rather die than sin against Him Rev 12:11. **1.** John the Baptist preached repentance Mt 3:2,8,11. **2.** Jesus also preached repentance. Repentance is the first step after coming to God Mt 4:17. **3.** Jesus came not to call the righteous to repentance but sinners Mt 9:13. **4.** Repentance comes before the remission (Greek = ἀφεσις aphesis = forgiveness) Mk 1:4. **5.** Repentance comes even before belief Mk 1:15. **6.** When Jesus sent out His 12 disciples preaching they also taught men that they should repent Mk 6:7-13. **7.** Baptism is of repentance Lk 3:2-4. **8.** Without repentance we will perish Lk 13:3-5. **9.** There is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repents than over 99 that need no repentance Lk 15:7,10. **10.** If we don’t forgive others that repent of the



Agora with section of crown of Smyrna in background

SMYRNA

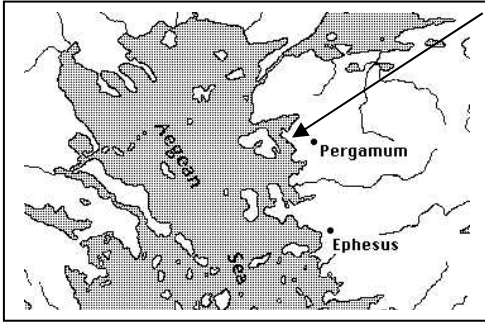
The message addressed to Smyrna reflects conflict between Christians and Jews (Rev. 2:9-10). It may be that local Jewish leaders were appearing before the city authorities or the Roman governor (cf. Acts 17:5-8) and accusing their Christian neighbors of crimes. Polycarp, bishop of Smyrna, was martyred in A.D. 156. The account of the martyrdom makes clear that there was great hostility between the local Jewish and Christian communities at that time.

Information about the Christians in Smyrna between the time of the composition of the book of Revelation and the martyrdom of Polycarp is available in the letters of Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, written early in the second century.

A city in the Roman province of Asia, on the Aegean shore of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It grew to be one of the most prosperous cities in Asia Minor. It was the natural port for the ancient trade route through the Hermus valley, and its immediate hinterland was very fertile. Smyrna was a faithful ally of Rome long before the Roman power became supreme in the East Mediterranean. Under the empire it was famous for its beauty and for the magnificence of its public buildings. It is now Izmir, the second largest city in Asiatic Turkey.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON PERGAMOS

Appendix 6 A



1. Pergamum (*puhr-guh-m uh-m*), an ancient city in the region of Mysia in western Asia Minor. The modern village of Bergama, Turkey, now covers part of the ancient site. The site was occupied from prehistoric times but became famous in the Hellenistic period. Pergamum was one of the most beautiful of Greek cities. Its public buildings were built on terraces on a steep mountain and culminated in the palace and fortifications at the acropolis. The whole is a magnificent example of Hellenistic city planning.



Very High and steep theatre of Pergamos

In 133 B.C. the last king to reign in Pergamum, Attalus III, bequeathed his kingdom which comprised parts of Phrygia, Ionia, and Caria as well as Lydia and Mysia in his will to the Romans.

After his death it was constituted as the Roman province of Asia with Pergamum as its capital. Under Augustus, the province was reconstituted as a senatorial province with a governor of consular rank who governed as proconsul. The capital was probably changed at this time to Ephesus; that is, the governor landed and resided there. "Harper's Bible Dictionary" article Pergamum (Pergamos)

2. A city of the Roman province of Asia, in the West of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It occupied a commanding position near the seaward end of the broad valley of the Caicus, and was probably the site of a settlement from a very early date. It became important only after 282 BC, when Philetaerus revolted against Lysimachus of Thrace and made it the capital of what became the Attalid kingdom, which in 133 BC was bequeathed by Attalus III to the Romans, who formed the province of *Asia from it.



The sacred way of Asclepion with acropolis of Pergamos in the

The first temple of the imperial cult was built in Pergamum (c. 29 BC) in honour of Rome and Augustus. The city thus boasted a religious primacy in the province, though *Ephesus became its main commercial centre. Pergamum is listed third of the 'seven churches of Asia' (Rev. 1:11): the order suits its position in geographical sequence. This was the place 'where Satan's throne is' (Rev. 2:13). The phrase has been referred to the complex of pagan cults, of Zeus, Athena, Dionysus and Asclepius, established by the Attalid kings, that of Asclepius Soter (the 'saviour', 'healer') being of special importance. These cults are illustrative of the religious history of Pergamum, but the main



The Babylonian mysteries were preserved in the temple of Zeus at Pergamos and transferred to Rome in 133BC

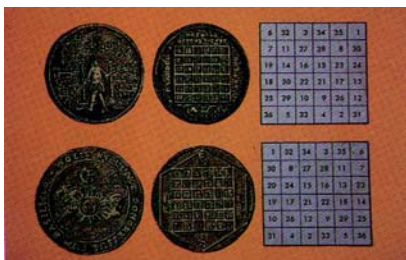
allusion is probably to emperor worship. This was where the worship of the divine emperor had been made the touchstone of civic loyalty under Domitian. It marked a crisis for the church in Asia. Antipas (v. 13) is probably cited as a representative (perhaps the first) of those who were brought to judgment and execution here for their faith. "The New Bible Dictionary" article Pergamum.

3. Pergamum or Pergamos, about 20 miles inland from Smyrna. Like Ephesus and Smyrna it was a wealthy city, but it was wicked. People in its pagan cults worshiped Athena, Asclepius, Dionysus, and Zeus. Pergamum was famous for its university with a library of about 200,000 volumes, and for manufacturing parchment resulting in a paper called *pergamena*. The atmosphere of this city was adverse to any effective Christian life and testimony. "The Bible Knowledge Commentary" article on Rev 2:12

4. After the Persians took over Babylon in 539 B.C., they discouraged the continuation of the mystery religions of Babylon. Subsequently the Babylonian cultists moved to Pergamum (or Pergamos) where one of the seven churches of Asia Minor was located (cf. Rev. 2:12-17). Crowns in the shape of a fish head were worn by the chief priests of the Babylonian cult to honor the fish god. The crowns bore the words "Keeper of the Bridge," symbolic of the "bridge" between man and Satan. This handle was adopted by the Roman emperors, who used the Latin title *Pontifex Maximus*, which means "Major Keeper of the Bridge." And the same title was later used by the bishop of Rome. The pope today is often called the *pontiff*, which comes from *pontifex*. When the teachers of the Babylonian mystery religions later moved from Pergamum to Rome, they were influential in paganizing Christianity and were the source of many so-called religious rites which have crept into ritualistic churches. "The Bible Knowledge Commentary" article on Rev 17:3-5.

After the Persians took over Babylon in 539 B.C., they discouraged the continuation of the mystery religions of Babylon. Subsequently the Babylonian cultists moved to Pergamum (or Pergamos)

5. *membra* (*membra*, (3200)) is a Latin word, properly an adjective, from *membra*, a limb, but denoting skin, parchment. The Eng. word 'parchment' is a form of *pergamena*, an adjective signifying 'of Pergamum,' the city in Asia Minor where parchent was either invented or brought into use. The word *membra* is found in 2 Tim. 4:13, where Timothy is asked to bring to the Apostle "the books, especially the parchments." The writing material was prepared from the skin of the sheep or goat. The skins were first soaked in lime for the purpose of removing the hair, and then shaved, washed, dried, stretched and ground or smoothed with fine chalk or lime and pumice-stone. The finest kind is called vellum, and is made from the skins of calves or kids. "Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words" article on Parchment.



In 133 B.C. the Babylonian solar cult was bequeathed to Rome by Attalus III. There its symbols and forms were incorporated into the cult of Caesar and later into Roman Catholicism

The Red Basilica or early Christian Church of Pergamos



The Red Basilica or early Christian Church of Pergamos

first soaked in lime for the purpose of removing the hair, and then shaved, washed, dried, stretched and ground or smoothed with fine chalk or lime and pumice-stone. The finest kind is called vellum, and is made from the skins of calves or kids. "Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words" article on Parchment.

CONSTANTINE MARRIES THE CHURCH TO THE WORLD

Appendix 6 B

Pergamos. During this period of time the Christian Church became popular for the first time. Here we have the establishment of Christianity by Constantine as the religion of the State. Instead of persecuting the Christians, he patronized them. From that moment the downward course of the church is rapid. Her unholy alliance with the world proved her saddest and deepest fall. It was then that she lost the true sense of her relationship to Christ in heaven, and of her character on earth as a pilgrim and a stranger. *"Miller's Church History"* Andrew Miller 20

The professing church and the world had joined hands, and were now enjoying themselves together



As the world could not rise to the high level of the church, she must fall to the low level of the world. This was exactly what took place. In the month of March 313, the bans of the unholy alliance between the Church and the State were published at Milan. The celebrated edict of that date conferred on the Christians the fullest toleration, and led the way to the legal establishment of Christianity, and to its ascendancy over all other religions. This was publicly displayed on the new imperial standard —the Labarum.

Besides the initials of Christ, and the symbol of His cross, there was also an image of the Emperor in gold. These signs, or mottoes, were intended as objects of worship for both heathen and Christian soldiers, and to animate them to enthusiasm in the day of battle. Thus he who is called the great Christian Emperor publicly united Christianity to idolatry. *"Miller's Church History"* Andrew Miller 270

He issued an edict addressed to all his subjects, advising them to embrace the gospel, but pressed none; he wished it to be a matter of conviction. He endeavored, however, to render it attractive by bestowing places and honors on proselytes of the higher classes and donations on the poor — a course which, as Eusebius acknowledges, produced a great amount of hypocrisy and pretended conversion. *"Miller's Church History"* Andrew Miller 272



Statue of Constantine

Constantine now took his place more openly to the whole world as the head of the church; but at the same time retained the office of the Pontifex Maximus — the high priest of the heathen; this he never gave up, and he died head of the church and high priest of the heathen. *"Miller's Church History"* Andrew Miller 272

The profession of Christianity being now the sure way to wealth and honors, all ranks and classes applied for, baptism. At the Easter and Pentecostal festivals, thousands, all clothed in the white garments of the neophyte, crowded round the different churches, waiting to be baptized. The numbers were so great, and the whole scene so striking, that many thought these conspicuous neophytes must be the innumerable multitude spoken of in the Revelation, who stood before the Lamb, clothed with white robes. According to some writers, as many as twelve thousand men, beside women and children, were baptized in one year in Rome; *"Miller's Church History"* Andrew Miller 276

a white garment, with twenty pieces of gold, was promised by the Emperor to every new convert of the poorer classes.

earlier days may be traced on still better authority. The Grecian worship of Apollo had been exalted into the Oriental veneration of the sun, as the visible representative of the Deity; and of all the statues that were introduced from different quarters, none were received with greater honor than those of Apollo. ... But on a still loftier, the famous pillar of porphyry, stood an image in which, ... Constantine dared to mingle together the attributes of the sun, of Christ, and of himself. ... The pillar, formed of marble and of porphyry, rose to the height of a hundred and twenty feet. The colossal image on the top was that of Apollo, either from Phrygia or from Athens. But the head of Constantine had been substituted for that of the god. The scepter proclaimed the dominion of the world; and it held in its hand the globe, emblematic of universal empire. Around the head, instead of rays, were fixed the nails of the true cross. Is this paganism approximating to Christianity, or Christianity degenerating into paganism?" -- Milman.26

In Murdering his son and drowning his wife Constantine betrayed to the surprised and anxious world, that, if his outward demeanor showed respect or veneration for Christianity, its milder doctrines had made little impression on the unsoftened paganism of his heart

Constantine the following year (A. D. 326) went to Rome to celebrate in that city the twentieth year of his accession to the office of emperor, and while there, in the month of

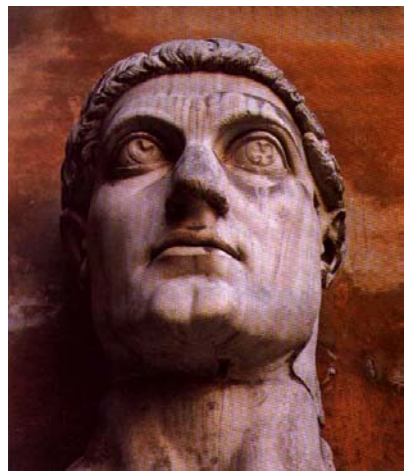


Arch of Constantine, Rome, built to commemorate his victory over Licinius his Italian rival making him sole ruler over the Roman Empire

April, and wholly in jealous tyranny, he had his son Crispus murdered... Nor yet did he stop here. "This was only the first act of the domestic tragedy; the death of the emperor's wife Fausta, the partner of twenty years of wedlock, the mother of his three surviving sons, increased the general horror. She was suffocated in a bath which had been heated to an insupportable degree of temperature." *"The Great Prophetic Empires of Prophecy"* A.T. Jones 430-432

A SAD MARRIAGE IN PERGAMOS

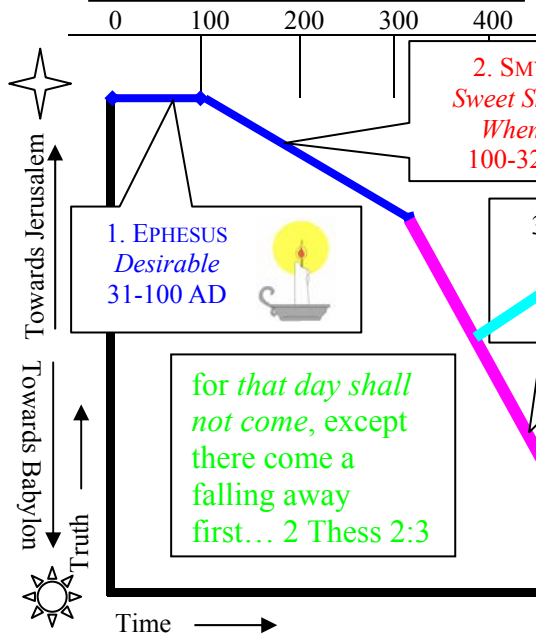
Appendix 6C



The Groom – The Roman State



The Bride – The Virgin Christianity



325 AD

325 AD. Easter was first introduced (from the pagan Babylonian goddess Ishtar) as a fixed date for every year

321 AD. First Civil Sunday Law made by Constantine.
336 AD. First Conciliar Sunday Law made at the Council of Laodicea by the Church of Rome.

336 AD. Christmas being celebrated on the 25th Dec was converted from paganism (the birthday of the Babylonian Sun god Tammuz) to become a Christian holy day

370AD. The first record of infant baptism. (originally a pagan ritual) Emperor Valen's son, Galates, was baptized at the Emperor's order.

376 AD. The Pope of Rome fell heir to two keys from the pagan divinities JANUS and CYBELE and became the Supreme Pontiff of the Babylonian Order

381 AD Worship of the Virgin Mary as the Mother of God (adopted originally from the worship of the pagan goddess Ishtar of ancient Babvlon) was established

416 AD. Infant Baptism became compulsory.

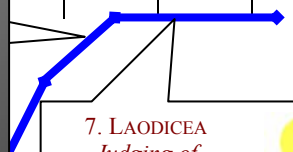
500 AD. The pagan practice of burning incense was first used in Church services.

519 AD. Lent, which was another Babylonian pagan ceremony, was established as being just before Easter

538 AD

Their Child – The man of Sin. 2 Thess 2:4

1800 1900 2000



...until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began. Acts 3:21

THE DOCTRINE OF BALAAM AND THE NICOLAITANES

Appendix 6D

Doctrine of Balaam and Nicolaitanes. The story of Balaam and Balak is found in Numbers chapters 22-25. Balaam had been a prophet of God, and a good man; but he apostatized, and gave himself up to covetousness, so that he loved the wages of unrighteousness 2 Pet 2:15. At the time Balak sent messengers for him, he was double-



Balaam (with Balak) trying to curse Israel

minded, pursuing a course to gain and retain the favor and honor of the enemies of the Lord, for the sake of rewards that he received from them James 1:5-8. At the same time, he was professing to be a prophet of God. Idolatrous nations believed that curses might be uttered which would affect individuals, and even whole nations Num 22:6. Balaam tried to curse Israel four times. Instead through God's inspiration he blessed Israel four times much to the anger of Balak (Balak) Num 23:1-12; 13-26; 27-30, 24:11-14; 15-25.

After Balaam had returned to his place (Num 24:25), and the controlling influence of God's Spirit had left him, his covetousness, which had not been overcome, but merely held in check, prevailed. He could think of nothing but the reward and promotion to honor which he might have

received of Balak, until he was willing to resort to any means to obtain that which he desired. Balaam knew that the prosperity of Israel depended upon their observance of the law of God (Num 23:20,21); and that there was no way to bring a curse upon them but by seducing them to transgression. He decided to secure to himself Balak's reward and the promotion he desired, by advising

the Moabites what course to pursue to bring the curse upon Israel. He counseled Balak to proclaim an idolatrous feast in honor of their idol gods, and he would persuade the Israelites to attend, that they might be delighted with the music; and then the most beautiful Midianitish women should entice the Israelites to transgress the law of God, and corrupt themselves, and also influence them to offer sacrifice to idols Rev 2:14; Num 25:1,2. This satanic counsel succeeded too well. Many of the Israelites were persuaded by Balaam, because they regarded him as a prophet of God, to join him, and mix with that idolatrous people, and engage with him in idolatry and fornication. "And Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor; and the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel. And the Lord said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the Lord against the sun, that the fierce anger of the Lord may be turned away from Israel. And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baal-peor." Moses commanded the judges of the people to execute the punishment of God against those who had transgressed, and hang the heads of the transgressors up before the Lord, to cause Israel to fear to follow their example. The Lord commanded Moses to vex the Midianites, and smite them, because they had vexed Israel with their wives, wherewith they had beguiled them to transgress the commandments of God Num 25.

The doctrine of Balaam and of the Nicolaitanes were associated as being similar in character and practice (Rev 2:14,15) and God Hated them. This was the same spirit that infiltrated the Church of the Pergamos period, particularly with the influence of Constantine the Great. One example of his bringing a pagan practice into the Christian Church can be found in the Sabbath being changed from the Seventh day to the "venerable day of the sun." Sunday is the day of worship of nearly all heathen god's.

Constantine made an edict from the throne of the Roman empire in behalf of "the venerable day of the sun." It was issued by the emperor Constantine in A.D. 321, and is thus expressed: — "Let all the judges and town people, and the occupation of all trades rest on the venerable day of the sun; but let those who are situated in the country, freely and at full liberty attend to the business of agriculture; because it often happens that no other day is so fit for sowing corn and planting vines; lest, the critical moment being let slip, men should lose the commodities granted by Heaven. Given the seventh day of March; Crispus and Constantine being consuls, each of them for the second time."

Of this law, a high authority speaks as follows: — "It was Constantine the Great who first made a law for the proper observance of Sunday; and who, according to Eusebius, appointed it should be regularly celebrated throughout the Roman empire. Before him, and even in his time, they observed the Jewish Sabbath ...*Encyc., Brit., art., Sunday, seventh edition, 1842.*

As a heathen, Constantine was the worshiper of Apollo, or the sun, a fact that sheds much light upon his edict enjoining men to observe the venerable day of the sun. Thus Gibbon testifies: — "The devotion of Constantine was more peculiarly directed to the genius of the sun, the Apollo of Greek and Roman mythology; and he was pleased to be represented with the symbols of the god of light and poetry. The altars of Apollo were crowned with the votive offerings of Constantine; and the credulous multitude were taught to believe that the emperor was permitted to behold with mortal eyes the visible majesty of their tutelary deity. The sun was

universally celebrated as the invincible guide and protector of Constantine." *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, chap 20*

His character as a professor of Christianity is described in these words: — "The sincerity of the man, who, in a short period, effected such amazing changes in the religious world, is best known to Him who searches the heart. Certain it is that his subsequent life furnished no evidence of conversion to God. He waded without remorse through seas of blood, and was a most tyrannical prince." March's *Eccl. Hist.*, period 3 chapter 5

A few words relative to his character as a man will complete our view of his fitness to legislate for the church. This man, when elevated to the highest place of earthly power, caused his eldest son, Crispus, to be privately murdered, lest the fame of the son should eclipse that of the father. In the same ruin was involved his nephew Licinius, "whose rank was his only crime," and this was followed by the execution "perhaps of a guilty wife." *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, chap 18*

"At a LATER PERIOD, carried away by the current of opinion, he declared himself a convert to the church. Christianity, then, or what he was pleased to call by that name,

became the law of the land, and the edict of A.D. 321, being unrevoked, was enforced as a Christian ordinance." *Sunday and the Mosaic Sabbath, p. 4*

Thus it is seen that a law, enacted in support of the heathen institution, after a few years came to be considered a Christian ordinance...Paganism had prepared the institution from ancient days, and had now elevated it to supreme power; its work was accomplished. And Sir Win. Domville says: — "Centuries of the Christian era passed away before the Sunday was observed by the Christian church as a Sabbath. History does not furnish us with a single proof or indication that it was at any time so observed previous to the Sabbatical edict of Constantine in A.D. 321." *Examination of the Six Texts p 291*



Apollo the sun god here depicted with his horse-drawn chariot was universally celebrated as the invincible guide and protector of Constantine



Constantine instituted the first Sunday Law

THE HISTORY OF JEZEBEL IN THE THYATIRA PERIOD

Appendix 6 E

700 A.D. Easter eggs were first used by Christians in *

726 A.D. Pope Gregory the 2nd supports Image worship *

787 A.D. Empress IRENE called the Council of Nicaea and established image and saint worship in the Church of Rome.*

831 A.D. PASCASIUS RADBERTUS, a Benedictine monk, formulated the doctrine of Transubstantiation.*

965 A.D. JOHN XIII became pope and celibacy for English clerics was enforced.*

1074 A.D. Pope GREGORY VII banned clerical marriages. All married priests were excommunicated.*

1123 A.D. The Lateran Council, called by Pope CALIXTUS II with 300 bishops present, established the celibacy of priests.*

1179 A.D. The Lateran Council, called by Pope ALEXANDER III, consisting of 412 bishops, condemned the Waldensians and the Albigenses who were Seventh Day Sabbath keepers.*

1194 A.D. The Waldensians were outlawed by King ALONSO II of Aragon.*

1197 A.D. The Council of Girona penalized Waldensians with burning at the stake.*

1211 A.D. 400 people in Lavour were burned alive and 100,000 Albigenses were killed in one day by the Inquisition.*

1213 A.D. 32,000 Albigenses were slain at Toulouse by the Inquisition.*

1215 A.D. DOMINICK GUZMAN led the Spanish Inquisition. The Doctrine of Transubstantiation was officially accepted by the Roman Church at the Fourth Lateran Council. Annual confession to a priest became mandatory. The doctrine of Transubstantiation was dogmatized.*

1229 A.D. The Synod of Toulouse forbade Bible reading by laymen.*

1302 A.D. When PHILIP of France arrested a papal legate for treason, Pope BONIFACE VIII ordered his release. When PHILIP refused, the Pope claimed supremacy over all rulers and issued "Unam Sanctum", the Roman Catholic Church is the only true church, outside of which no one can be saved.*

1408 A.D. English subjects were forbidden to make or read a version of the Bible in their native tongue.*

1429 A.D. Catholics were ordered by the Pope to believe what they were told by the priests.*

1436 A.D. The art of printing, which originated with John Guttenberg, a citizen of Mentz, was first attempted by him at Strasburg, from 1436. His efforts which were, no doubt, at first very rude and indigested, had been greatly matured by skill and experience in the course of a century; and consequently, about the year 1535, we find the



Broken columns from old Thyatira



Walls of old Thyatira

Waldenses of Piedmont anxious to avail themselves of it with a view to a more general circulation of the word of life.**

1506 A.D. Pope JULIUS II started the new St. Peter's Church and authorized the sale of indulgences to finance it.*

1517 A.D. MARTIN LUTHER, protesting the sale of indulgences by TETZEL, agent of Archbishop ALBERT, posted his "Ninety-five Theses" on the door of his Wittenberg church on October 31.st *

1518 A.D. MARTIN LUTHER was questioned before Cardinal CAJETAN at the Diet of Augsburg, and refused to retract his views.*

1519 A.D. HULDREICH ZWINGLI was converted while pastor at Zurich, and began the Swiss Reformation. JOHANN TETZEL died. LUTHER debated JOHN ECK at Leipzig.*

1520 A.D. MARTIN LUTHER severed himself from obedience to the Pope. The Swiss Anabaptist movement was founded by CONRAD GREBEL and FELIX MANZ, and in Germany by THOMAS.*

1521 A.D. MARTIN LUTHER was excommunicated by Pope LEO X at the Diet of Worms and was imprisoned at Wartburg. WILLIAM TYNDALE was ordained a priest.*

1522 A.D. MARTIN LUTHER translated the New Testament into German. ZWINGLI broke with Rome. ADRIAN BOEYENS became Pope ADRIAN VI.*

1523 A.D. BAPTISTS first appeared in Switzerland. JOHN CALVIN entered the University of Paris. JACQUES LEFEVRE translated the New Testament from Latin to French. The first Dutch New Testament was published. WILHELM REUBLIN became the first Catholic priest to marry. CLEMENT VII became pope. *

*Wetzel – Chronology of Biblical Christianity p 103-149.

**History of the Christian Church, Vol 2 Jones. p 225.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON THYATIRA

Thyatira (θη ἄη-τῆρα), a city (modern Akhisar) about fifty-five miles northeast of Izmir (Smyrna), Turkey. It lay on the road between Pergamum and Sardis in Lydia (or at times in Mysia) on the Lycus River. Founded as a Hellenistic city by Seleucus I Nicator in 300 B.C., it had developed many industrial and commercial guilds by the first century A.D..

According to Acts 16:14-15, Paul's first convert at Philippi was Lydia, 'a seller of purple goods' from Thyatira. She is described as a 'worshiper of God,' which may mean that she had come into contact with a community of Jews in Thyatira.

By the late first century, a sufficiently significant Christian community existed in Thyatira to merit the fourth and longest of the seven letters of Revelation (Rev. 2:18-29). The 'eyes like a flame of fire' and 'feet...like burnished bronze' (Rev. 2:18) may allude to attributes of the local god Tyrimnos, identified with the Greek sun gods Helios and Apollo. Harper's Bible Dictionary article Thyatira.

A city in the Roman province of Asia, in the W of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It occupied an important position in a low-lying 'corridor' connecting the Hermus and Caicus valleys. It was a frontier garrison, first on the W frontier of the territory of Seleucus I of Syria, and later, after changing hands, on the E frontier of the kingdom of Pergamum. With that kingdom, it passed under Roman rule in 133 BC. But it remained an important point in the Roman road-system, for it lay on the road from Pergamum to Laodicea, and thence to the E provinces. It was also an important centre of manufacture; dyeing, garment-making, pottery and brass-working are among the trades known to have existed there. A large town (Akhisar) still stands on the same site.

The Thyatiran woman Lydia, the 'seller of purple' whom Paul met at Philippi (Acts 16:14), was probably the overseas agent of a Thyatiran manufacturer; she may have been arranging the sale of dyed woollen goods which were known simply by the name of the dye. This 'purple' was obtained from the madder root, and was still produced in the district, under the name 'Turkey red', into the present century.

The Thyatiran church was the fourth (Rev. 1:11) of the 'seven churches of Asia'. Some of the symbols in the letter to the church (Rev. 2:18-29) seem to allude to the circumstances of the city. The description of the Christ (v. 18) is appropriate for a city renowned for its brass-working (χαλκοβανος, translated 'fine brass', may be a technical term for some local type of brassware). The New Bible Dictionary article Thyatira.

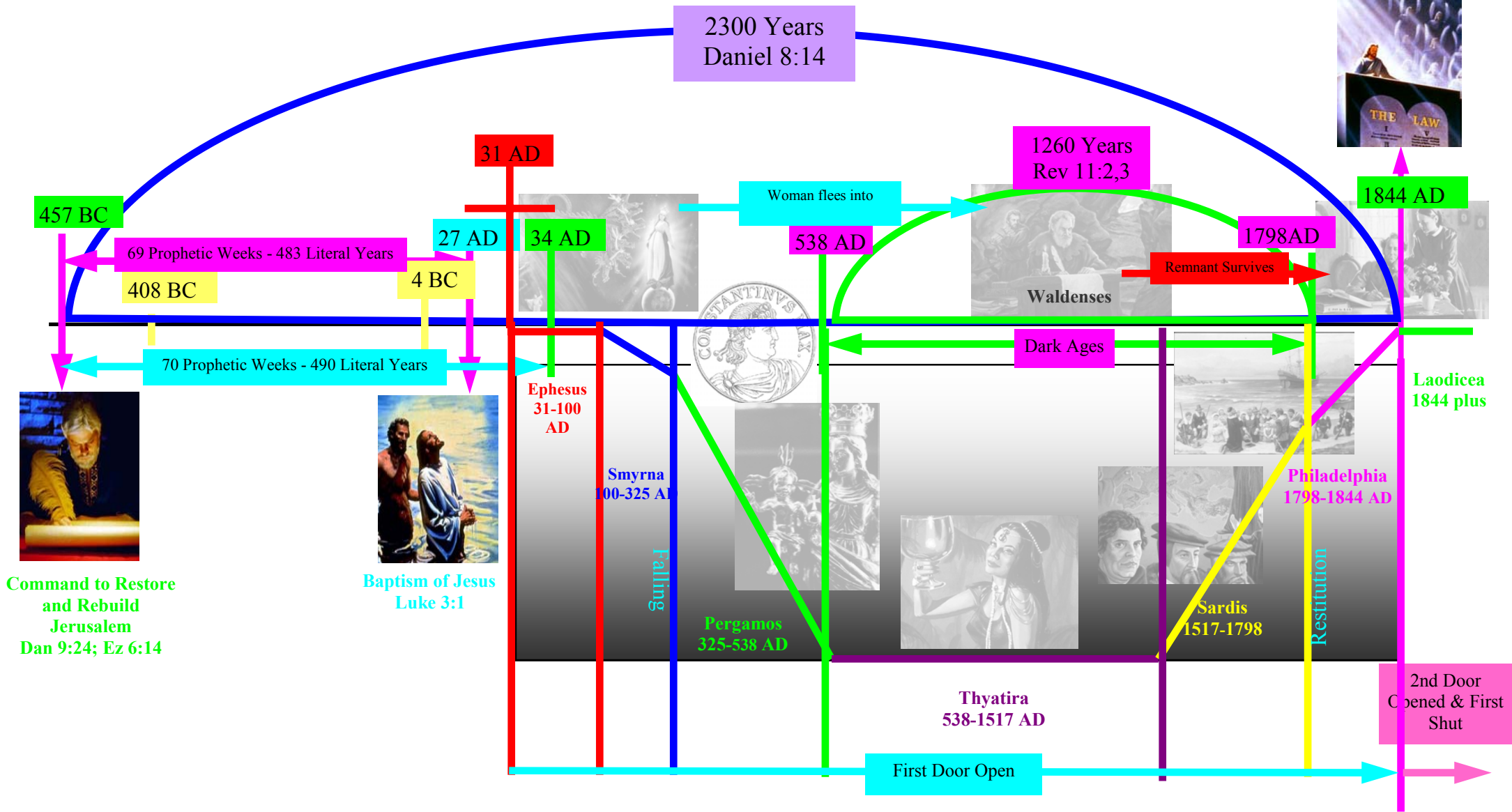


Figures on some of the columns of Laodicea

The Seven Churches within Prophetic Time

Appendix 7A

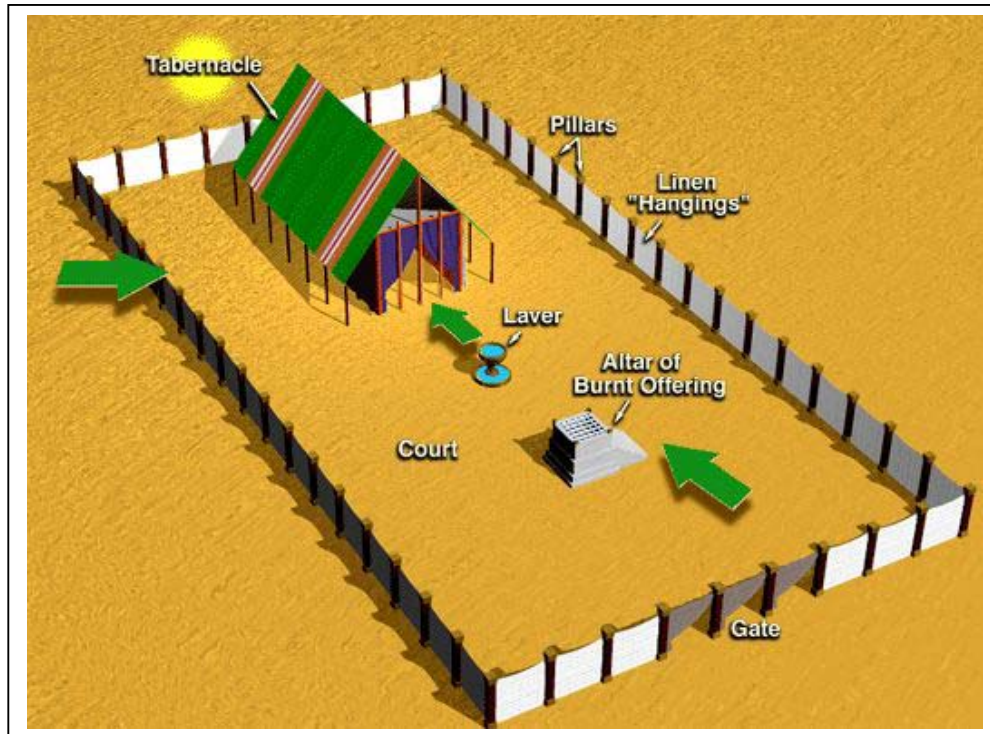
Investigative
Judgement
Dan 7:9; 8:14



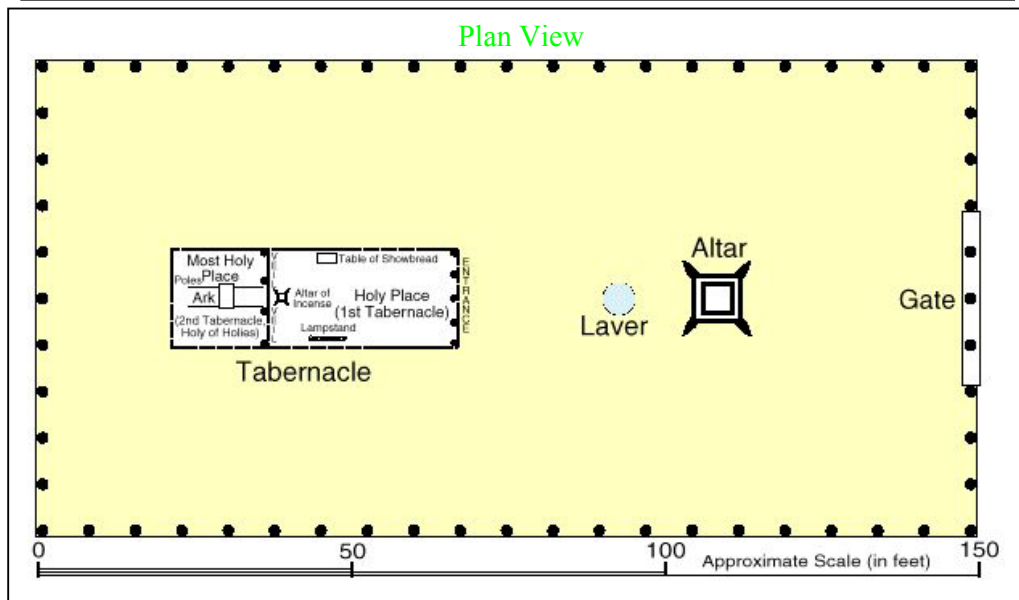
The Sanctuary

Appendix 7B

See Exodus Chapters 25-40 for details



Plan View



HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON SARDIS AND PHILADELPHIA

Appendix 7C

Sardis

A city in the Roman province of Asia, in the W of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Lydia, the greatest of the foreign powers encountered by the Greeks during their early colonization of Asia Minor. Its early prosperity, especially under Croesus, became a byword for wealth; its riches are said to have derived in part from the gold won from the Pactolus, a stream which flowed through the city. The original city was an almost impregnable fortress-citadel, towering above the broad valley of the Hermus, and nearly surrounded by precipitous cliffs of treacherously loose rock. Its position as the centre of Lydian supremacy under Croesus was ended abruptly when the Persian king Cyrus besieged the city and took the citadel (546 BC), apparently by scaling the cliffs and entering by a weakly defended point under cover of darkness. The same tactics again led to the fall of the city in 214 BC, when it was captured by Antiochus the Great. Though it lay on an important trade route down the Hermus valley, it never regained under Roman rule the spectacular prominence it had had in earlier centuries. In AD 26 its claim for the honour of building an imperial temple was rejected in favour of its rival Smyrna. There is now only a small village (Sart) near the site of the ancient city.



Temple of Artemis with small Christian Church at base

failing, as the city had twice failed, to learn from its past and be vigilant. The symbol of 'white garments' was rich in meaning in a city noted for its luxury clothing trade: the faithful few who are vigilant shall be arrayed to share in the triumphal coming of their Lord. [The New Bible Dictionary article Sardis.](#)

The important commercial city of **Sardis** was located about 30 miles southeast of Thyatira, on an important trade route that ran east and west through the kingdom of Lydia. Important industries included jewelry, dye, and textiles, which had made the city wealthy. From a religious standpoint it was a center of pagan worship and site of a temple of Artemis, which ruins still remain. [The Bible Knowledge Commentary article on Rev 3:1A.](#)

Sardis, forty miles southeast of Thyatira and forty-five miles east of Smyrna, was one of the more illustrious cities of ancient Anatolia and a major rival of Ephesus and Smyrna, boasting a temple to Augustus. The earthquake of A.D. 17 destroyed much of the Hellenistic city (Tacitus *Annals* 2.47), which was rebuilt with aid from the emperors Tiberius and Claudius. During the Imperial period, her population ranged between 60,000 and 100,000 inhabitants. Recent archaeological exploration has uncovered one of the largest ancient synagogues yet known, accommodating about 1,000 people, reflecting the presence of a large, wealthy, and influential Jewish community. [Harper's Bible Commentary article on Rev 3:1-6.](#)

Sardis: The inhabitants of this city had the reputation of living luxuriously and licentiously. The predominant cult at Sardis was that of Cybele. [The Jerome Biblical Commentary article on Rev 3:1-6.](#)



Reconstructed synagogue of Sardis



The old acropolis and the ruins of the temple of Artemis at old Sardis

Philadelphia

An ancient city (modern Alashehir, Turkey) in the region of Lydia in western Asia Minor.

Philadelphia is one of the seven cities mentioned in the book of Revelation. It was founded by Attalus II, king of Pergamum (159-138 B.C.). Because of its strategic location, it served as a vital link in

communication and trade between Sardis and Pergamum to the west and Laodicea and Hierapolis to the east. It was a center of agriculture, leather production, and textile industry. [Harper's Bible Dictionary article Philadelphia](#)

A city in the Rom. province of Asia, in the W of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It was perhaps founded by Eumenes, king of Pergamum, in the 2nd century BC, and certainly named after his brother Attalus, whose loyalty had earned him the name Philadelphia. It was situated near the upper end of a broad valley leading down through Sardis to the sea near Smyrna; and it lay at the threshold of a very fertile tract of plateau country, from which much of its commercial prosperity derived. The area was subject to frequent earthquakes. A severe one in AD



Section of old wall at Philadelphia



Byzantine Church ruins of old Philadelphia

17 destroyed the city; and as the shocks continued intermittently the people took to living outside the city (Strabo, *Geography* 12.8.18 [579]; 13.4.10 [628]). After an imperial bounty had helped it to recover, the city voluntarily assumed the new name of Neocaesarea. Later, under Vespasian, it took another imperial name, Flavia. The city was remarkable for the number of its temples and religious festivals. The site is now occupied by the town of Alashehir. The letter to 'the angel of the church in Philadelphia' (Rev. 3:7-13) probably alludes to some of the circumstances of the city. As Philadelphia was renowned for his loyalty to his brother, so the church, the true Philadelphia, inherits and fulfils his character by its steadfast loyalty to Christ (vv. 8, 10). The symbols of the 'crown' and the 'temple' (vv. 11-12) point to a contrast with the games and religious festivals of the city. In contrast with the impermanence of life in a city prone to earthquakes, those who 'overcome' are promised the ultimate stability of being built into the temple of God. As at Smyrna, this church had met rejection from the Jews in the city (v. 9), but the conqueror shall enjoy final acceptance by the Lord whose name he had confessed (v. 8), signified again by the conferring on him of the divine names (v. 12), which recall the new names taken by the city from the divine emperors. [The New Bible Dictionary article Philadelphia.](#)

HISTORICAL INFORMATION ON LAODICEA

Appendix 7D

Laodicea

(lay-ahd-i-see-uh), a prosperous, commercial city in the region of Phrygia in northwest Asia Minor. It was named after his wife, Laodice, by Antiochus II of the Seleucid dynasty, which ruled Syria after the death of Alexander the Great. Situated on a plateau in the south of the Lycus River valley, Laodicea was adjacent to one of the ancient trade routes from the east. Laodicea received its water through an aqueduct coming from a spring four miles to the south; the waters of neighboring Hierapolis, however, were famous as hot springs and would have provided a contrast with the tepid aqueduct water in Laodicea. **Harper's Bible Dictionary article Laodicea.**

A city of SW Phrygia, in the Roman province of Asia, in the W of what is now Asiatic Turkey. It was founded by the Seleucid Antiochus II in the 3rd century BC, and called after his wife Laodice. It lay in the fertile valley of the Lycus (a tributary of the Maeander), close to *Hierapolis and *Colossae, and was distinguished by the epithet 'on Lycus' from several other cities of the name. It was at a very important cross-road: the main road across Asia

Minor ran W to the ports of *Miletus and *Ephesus about 160 km away



Section of Aqueduct of old Laodicea



Medicinal lukewarm waters at Hierapolis near Laodicea



Part of great Amphitheatre at old Laodicea

and E by an easy incline on to the central plateau and thence towards Syria; and another road ran N to *Pergamum and S to the coast at *Attalia.



City wall of old Laodicea

This strategic position made Laodicea an extremely prosperous commercial centre, especially under Roman rule. When destroyed by a disastrous earthquake in AD 60 (Tacitus, *Ann.* 14. 27) it could afford to dispense with aid from Nero. It was an important centre of banking and exchange (*cf.* Cicero, *ad Fam.* 3. 5. 4, etc.). Its distinctive products included garments of glossy black wool (Strabo, *Geog.* 12. 8. 16 [578]), and it was a medical centre noted for ophthalmology. The site had

one disadvantage: being determined by the road-system, it lacked a sufficient and permanent supply of good water. Water was piped to the city from hot springs some distance S, and probably arrived lukewarm. The deposits still encrusting the remains testify to its warmth. The site of Laodicea was eventually abandoned, and the modern town (Denizli) grew up near the springs. **The New Bible Dictionary article Laodicea.**

Laodicea (lahd'-see) [Gr. *Laodikeia*, meaning "people's court (of justice)," "people's judgment," or "a people adjudged."] An important city of western Asia Minor, belonging to Phrygia. It was situated on the edge of the valley of the river Lycus, a tributary of the Maeander, and lay between mountains that rise to heights of 8,000 and 9,000 ft. (c. 2,440 to 2,750 m.) (Paul's First Missionary Tour). It was founded probably by Antiochus II (261–246 B.C.), who have named it after Laodice, his sister (see P-W 2:2455) and wife, and populated it with Syrians and Jews transplanted from Babylonia. The city did not gain importance until it became part of the Roman province of Asia, organized in the 2d cent. B.C.. It was famous in NT times as a trade center for a glossy black wool and black garments locally manufactured from it, both articles being exported to many countries. Also well known throughout the Eastern world was the medicinal "Phrygian powder" used for the eyes. The city became so wealthy that when it was destroyed in A.D. 60 by an earthquake its citizens, unlike those of other cities who had shared in this misfortune, refused Roman help and rebuilt their city out of their own resources. The city changed hands several times in the succeeding centuries, and was finally destroyed in the 13th cent. by the Turks. Since that time it has lain in ruins, and has served as a quarry for building material for the neighboring city of Denizli. The ruined site bears the name *EskiHissar*, which means "old castle." **S.D.A. Bible Commentary article**

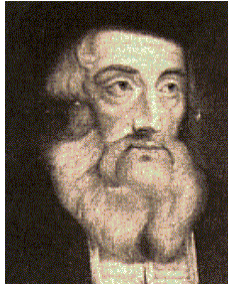


Ancient Aqueduct of old Laodicea

Laodicea.

The Battle of the Bible versus tradition

Appendix 7D



John Wycliffe

1179 The Lateran Council, called by Pope ALEXANDER III, consisting of 412 bishops, condemned the Waldensians and the Albigenses. 1194 The Waldensians were outlawed by King ALONSO II of Aragon. 1197 The Council of Girona penalized Waldensians with burning at the stake. 1211 400 people in Lavaur were burned alive and 100,000 Albigenses were killed in one day by the Inquisition. 1213 32,000 Albigenses were slain at Toulouse by the Inquisition. 1250 The Bible was divided into chapters by Cardinal HUGH deSANCTO CARO. 1376 JOHN WYCLIFFE began his work of reformation. 1380 JOHN WYCLIFFE was excommunicated and began translating the New Testament from Latin to English. 1384 JOHN WYCLIFFE died. NICHOLAS of Hereford completed the translation of the Old Testament into English. 1414 HUSS was arrested, tried and condemned. 1415 The Council also ordered JOHN WYCLIFFE'S body exhumed and desecrated. JOHN HUSS

was burned at the stake in Prague on July 6th. 1416 JEROME of Prague was martyred. 1456 The Latin Bible, called the Mazarin Bible, was the first printed book by JOHANN GUTENBERG on his printing press. 1466 JOHANN MENTEL printed the first German Bible. 1488 MILES COVERDALE was born. The first complete Hebrew Old Testament was produced. 1512 MARTIN LUTHER became Professor of Biblical Theology. JACQUES LeFEVRE of France published Paul's Epistles and a Latin Commentary. 1516 DESIDERIUS ERASMUS published his Greek New Testament on March 1st. 1517 MARTIN LUTHER, protesting the sale of indulgences by TETZEL, agent of Archbishop ALBERT, posted his "Ninety-five Theses" on the door of his Wittenberg church on October 31st. 1518 MARTIN LUTHER was questioned before Cardinal CAJETAN at the Diet of Augsburg, and refused to retract his views. 1519 HULDREICH ZWINGLI was converted while pastor at Zurich, and began the Swiss Reformation. 1520 MARTIN LUTHER severed himself from obedience to the Pope. The Swiss Anabaptist movement was founded by CONRAD GREBEL and FELIX MANZ, and in Germany by THOMAS MUNZER. 1521 MARTIN LUTHER was excommunicated by Pope LEO X at the Diet of Worms and was imprisoned at Wartburg. 1522 MARTIN LUTHER translated the New Testament into German. ZWINGLI broke with Rome. 1523 BAPTISTS first appeared in Switzerland. JOHN CALVIN entered the University of Paris. JACQUES LeFEVRE translated the New Testament from Latin to French. The first Dutch New Testament was published. 1524 ZWINGLI abolished images and the mass in the church. A Hebrew text of the Bible was printed in Venice by JACOB BEN CHAYYIM. 1525 WILLIAM TYNDALE translated, and PETER SCHOEFFER printed ERASMUS' Greek New Testament into English and published it in 1526. 1526 OLAVUS PETRI translated the New Testament into Swedish. 1527 The Diet of Westeras made Lutheranism the state religion of Sweden. 1528 Lutheranism was made the state religion of Finland. Anabaptist BALTHASAR HUBMAIER was arrested at Vienna and burned at the stake on March 10th. His wife was drowned in the Danube River by the Catholics over the issue of separation of church and state, the authority of the Scriptures, and believer's baptism. 1529 LUTHER compiled his Catechism. His followers read a "Protestation" and from then on were known as "Protestants". 1530 The Lutheran Church was officially formed at the Diet of Augsburg on June 25th, and the Augsburg Confession, prepared by PHILIP MELANCHTHON, became its official creed. 1533 FRANCIS I began a persecution of Protestants in France and JOHN CALVIN began the French Reformation. 1534 MARTIN LUTHER completed the translation of the whole Bible into German, based on the original Hebrew and Greek. The Act of Supremacy proclaimed the King of England head of the Church of England, as King HENRY VIII rejected papal authority and ended "Peter's Pence". 1535 MILES COVERDALE published the first complete printed Bible in English, with a translation of the Apocrypha from Latin. OLIVETAN made a new translation of the New Testament into French. 1536 At the Hamburg Diet, Lutheranism



Massacre of the Waldensians by Church of Rome. Men, women & children through off cliff



Tyndale burnt at stake

became the state religion in Denmark and Norway. 1537 MENNO SIMONS was baptized by OBBE PHILIP. The Matthews Bible was printed. 1539 MILES COVERDALE published The Great Bible, the first Authorized English Version, with the Apocrypha separated from the Hebrew text. 1541 JOHN KNOX led the Calvinist Reformation in Scotland and laid the foundation for the Presbyterian Church. 1542 ROBERT BELLARMINE, leader of the Counter-Reformation, was born October 4th. The Roman Inquisition was proclaimed by Pope PAUL III to combat Protestantism. 1543 The first Protestants were burned at the stake by the Inquisition. 1546 JOHN KNOX openly broke with the Catholics. MARTIN LUTHER died on February 18th and PHILIP MELANCHTHON assumed leadership. GEORGE WISHART was burned at the stake in Scotland for teaching Protestant doctrine. PETER CHAPOT was killed for bringing Bibles into France. 1547 JOHN KNOX was exiled to France. The Bible, the Apocrypha and Church Tradition constituted the final authority of the Roman Church. 1549 The Presbyterian Church was formed in Scotland. 1550 JOHN MARBECK produced the first English Bible Concordance. 1551 ROBERT STEVENS (ESTIENNE) divided the Bible into 31,173 verses. 1554 Lutheranism became the official religion of Iceland. Cardinal HOSIUS dated the history of Baptists back to A.D. 354. 1558 The Hungarian Confession was prepared as Hungary adopted Protestantism. 1560 The Geneva Bible was published, the first in verse form. JOHN KNOX drew up CALVIN'S Confession of Faith which was adopted at the Treaty of Edinburgh. French Protestants were called "Huguenots". Presbyterianism was established as the official religion in Scotland. 1568 The Bishop's Bible was published. The Synod of Wesel adopted the Heidelberg Catechism. The Bible was translated into Czech. The Cambridge Puritans attempted to change from Episcopal to Presbyterian or Congregational. 1570 RICHARD FITZ organized the Separatist Congregational Church. 1572 JOHN KNOX died November 25th. 22,000 Huguenots were killed at the Massacre of St. Bartholomew on August 24th in France and their property seized by the Catholics. 1581 ROBERT BROWNE formed the Congregational Church. 1588 WILLIAM MORGAN translated the Bible into Welsh. 1592 The Presbyterian Church became the state church of Scotland. 1593 HENRY BARROW, founder of the Barrowites, was martyred. HENRY JACOB led the Independents (Congregationalists) and THOMAS CARTWRIGHT led the Separatists (Presbyterians). Queen ELIZABETH had an act passed imprisoning the Puritans for not attending the Anglican Church. 1602 JULES MAZARIN was born in Naples. The Moravian Brethren (Anabaptists) were persecuted in Germany. The Bible was translated into Spanish. 1604 KING JAMES I authorized the translation of the Bible at Hampton Court Conference. Roman Catholic priests were banned from England. 1607 DIODATI translated the Bible into Italian. JOHN SMYTH and THOMAS



Coverdale Bible



Menno Simons - Leader of Anabaptists

HELVYS led a group of English nonconformists to Amsterdam in Holland, which became "The Pilgrim Church". 1611 The Authorized King James Version of the Bible was published. THOMAS HELWYS and JOHN MURTON organized the General Baptist Church in England. 1617 The Seventh Day Baptist General Conference was organized. 1619 The first Lutheran services were held in America on Christmas Day. 1620 WILLIAM BRADFORD led the Separatists to America on the "Mayflower", and the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock. The Albigenses were persecuted. 1636 ROGER WILLIAMS proclaimed complete religious freedom and established Providence in Rhode Island. 1641 30,000 Protestants were massacred in Ireland by Roman Catholics. 1655 The Waldensians were massacred in Savoy. 1671 STEPHEN MOMFORD organized the Seventh-Day Baptists in Rhode Island. 1739 The Methodists withdrew from the Episcopal Church and started a separate denominational existence. 1776 The Declaration of Independence was adopted in the U.S.A.. 1785 JAMES MADISON'S Bill for Religious Freedom was passed by the Assembly in December in the U.S.A. 1788



John Wesley

The Constitution which separated church and state was ratified by Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, New Hampshire, Virginia and New York. New York City was made the Federal Capital. [Wetzel's Chronology of Christian History](#).