MESSAGES FROM THE

REVELATION 1-3
EPHESUS

“The Lacking Church”

Revelation 2:1-7
The Seven Churches in Asia

- Pergamum
- Thyatira
- Sardis
- Philadelphia
- Ephesus
- Laodicea
- Patmos

Location:
- Aegean Sea
- Mediterranean Sea
- Asia
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. Large cosmopolitan city with possibly 300,000 people
2. As the capital of a province in Asia Minor, Ephesus was the home of a Roman governor.
3. Worship of the pagan goddess Artemis (Diana) was prevalent in the city. A large temple dedicated to Artemis was one of the “Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.”
4. Paul established the church at Ephesus (Acts 18-20) and he wrote the letter of Ephesians to this church about 30-35 years before John recorded Revelation.
5. John lived in Ephesus prior to, and after his exile on Patmos. He probably died while living in Ephesus.
1. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST (1)
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   a. Holds the seven stars in His right hand
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a. Holds the seven stars in His right hand
b. Walks among the seven lampstands
LESSON: To be an effective church, we need to draw on Christ’s **Divine Power** and His **Divine Presence**.
1. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST (1)
   a. Holds the seven stars in His right hand
   b. Walks among the seven lampstands

2. COMMENDATIONS (2-3, 6)
   a. Diligence (2a)
1. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST (1)
   a. Holds the seven stars in His right hand
   b. Walks among the seven lampstands

2. COMMENDATIONS (2-3, 6)
   a. Diligence (2a)
   b. Discernment (2b, 6)
1. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHRIST (1)
   a. Holds the seven stars in His right hand
   b. Walks among the seven lampstands

2. COMMENDATIONS (2-3, 6)
   a. **Diligence** (2a)
   b. **Discernment** (2b, 6)
   c. **Dedication** (3)
3. CRITICISM (4)
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→ Ephesus had “left its first love”
LESSON: Our labor for Christ should never become more important than our love for Christ.
4. COMMANDS/CORRECTIONS (5)
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   a. 3-fold command
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   a. 3-fold command
      1) Remember
4. COMMANDS/CORRECTIONS (5)
   a. 3-fold command
       1) Remember
       2) Repent
4. COMMANDS/CORRECTIONS (5)

a. 3-fold command

1) Remember
2) Repent
3) Repeat
4. COMMANDS/CORRECTIONS (5)

a. 3-fold command
   1) **Remember**
   2) **Repent**
   3) **Repeat**

b. Consequence for failure
4. COMMANDS/CORRECTIONS (5)

a. 3-fold command
   1) Remember
   2) Repent
   3) Repeat

b. Consequence for failure
   ➔ Lampstand will be removed
LESSON: Love for Christ is essential if we are to reflect the light of Christ.
5. COMMITMENT (7)
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⇒ Have right to eat from the “tree of life”
Questions to Consider

1. As you seek to serve Christ, from where do you draw your strength? Do you try to serve through your own power or through the power of Christ?
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3. What are some things we should focus on to keep our love for Christ alive? From today’s passage, why is this so important?
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