

# **WHAT JESUS LOOKS FOR IN A CHURCH (Christ's Messages to the Seven Churches in Revelation 2-3)**

## **LESSONS LEARNED FROM CHRIST MESSAGES TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES**

### **What We Learn About Jesus**

- 1. Ephesus** Jesus, the Protector and Authority of the church, is constantly walking with us observing our lives and testimony (2:1).
- 2. Smyrna** Jesus, the Eternal One, died at the hands of wicked men, yet rose from the grave conquering death and evil (2: 8).
- 3. Pergamum** Jesus examines us on the basis of the two edged sword of God's Word which delivers those who obey while judging those who disobey (2:12).
- 4. Thyatira** Jesus is the Son of God whose eyes see all; nothing can be hidden from Him and no one in the church can escape his purifying judgment (2: 18).
- 5. Sardis** Jesus works in His church through the ministry of the Holy Spirit and godly leaders (3: 1).
- 6. Philadelphia** Jesus is holy, trustworthy, and sovereign in the affairs of His people (3: 7).
- 7. Laodicea** Jesus, the Creator of all things, is the final word in all matters related to the church (3: 14).

### **What Jesus Looks for in a Church**

- 1. Ephesus - The Church who gave Jesus everything but the one thing.**
  - **LOVE FOR CHRIST**
- 2. Smyrna - The Church the devil tried to intimidate.**
  - **FAITHFULNESS IN SUFFERING**

3. Pergamum - The Church which was too open minded.
  - OBEDIENCE TO GOD'S WORD
4. Thyatira - The Church in bed with Jezebel.
  - HOLINESS OF CHARACTER
5. Sardis - The Church of the living dead.
  - FAITH APPLIED TO LIFE
6. Philadelphia - The Church where Jesus would choose to be a member.
  - BOLD FAITH TO ADVANCE GOSPEL
7. Laodicea - The Church who made Jesus sick.
  - WHOLEHEARTED SURRENDER TO CHRIST

**Seven Steps to Spiritual Decline  
as Seen in Christ's Messages to the Seven Churches**

1. Ephesus - NEGLECT OF WORSHIP
2. Smyrna - FEAR OF SUFFERING
3. Pergamum - COMPROMISE
4. Thyatira - DISOBEDIENCE
5. Sardis - HYPOCRISY
6. Philadelphia - SELF SERVING
7. Laodicea - COMPLACENCY