

Today's Theme

“Sardis No Longer Alive”

Series Title

“The Future - From Jesus”

Part 8 October 16, 2022

Church 1 Ephesus:

We must *know* of Gods love - To love Him back!

Church 2 Smyrna:

They were *rich* - Because they knew their *future*!

Church 3 Pergamum:

Some stood *strong* - Hidden *manna & assurance*!
Some went the *worlds way* - They listened to *evil*!

Church 4 Thyatira

They were *tolerating evil* - Gave *time to change*!
Stay *away* from evil - *Hold* on to Me!

1. Jesus takes a *look* at Sardis.

Rev 3:1 “To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

(1) So what *about* Sardis?

1. Founded in 1200 BC.
2. Capital to the wealthy Lydian Kingdom.
3. Much of the wealth came from Gold.
4. Gold & silver coins were first minted there.
5. 30 miles southeast of Thyatira.
6. The city was a center for trade.
7. Textiles mfg & jewelry making,
8. Known as a center of philosophy & study.

(2) Jesus is giving this *message* to them.

Rev 3:1 “These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

2. Jesus says they *ain't* fooling Him.

(1) People *think* they're spiritually doing well.

Rev 3:1 you have a reputation of being alive, . . .

(2) But in *reality* they had *died* spiritually.

Rev 3:1 . . . but you are dead.

What are the danger signs of being *dead*? (For a church or person)

1. When we *rest* on *past* accomplishments.
2. We focus on *social* issues not Jesus *changing* lives.
3. Our concern is on *material* over *spiritual* things.
4. Our concern is on what *man* thinks not *God*.
5. Our concern is on *rule's* more than what God says.
6. When we *stop* believing in God & His word.

3. The way to *change* things & get *alive*.

(1) *Admit* your failure & *reverse* things - Now.

Rev 3:2 Wake up! . . .

(2) Start *fanning* the *flame* again & quickly.

Rev 3:2 . . . Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God.

(3) Get *back* to what God says & follow it.

Rev 3:3 Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent.

(4) If you *fail* you will *face* consequences.

Rev 3:3 But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

4. Jesus *gives* them *encouragement*.

(1) A few were *alive* in this *dead* church.

Rev 3:4 Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. . . .

(2) The *faithful* are forever *blessed* by Jesus.

Rev 3:4 . . . They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy.

(3) Those who *honestly* follow Jesus are *safe*.

Rev 3:5 The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels.

(4) *Listen* well and *live* well.

Rev 3:6 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.