

The Seven Churches of Revelation Outline

NAME OF CHURCH (MEANING)	EPHESUS (DARLING)	SMYRNA (MYRRH)	PERGAMOS (MIXED MARRIAGE)	THYATIRA (CONTINUAL SACRIFICE)	SARDIS (REMNANT)	PHILADELPHIA (BROTHERLY LOVE)	LAODICEA (RULE OF PEOPLE)
Correspondent's Title	Holds Seven Stars and walks in midst of lampstands 2:1 From 1:12-13a	Who was dead and is now alive. 2:8 From 1:17-18	He who has sharp 2-edged sword. 2:12 From 1:16b	Eyes like flame of fire, feet like brass. 2:18 From 1:14-15	Seven Spirits of God; 7 Stars 3:1a From 1:16a	He who is Holy; Keys of David 3:7b From 1:18c	The Amen, faithful witness; 3:14b From 1:5
Commendation	Good labor, works, patience. 2:2-3	Works, tribulation, poverty 2:9	Hold fast His name; don't deny faith. 2:13	Charity, service, faith, patience, and work. 2:19	A few that have not defiled their garments 3:4	Kept His Word; little strength; kept His command 3:8-10	NONE
Criticism	Left first love. 2:4	NONE	Doctrine of Balaam and Nicolaitans. 2:14-15	Idol worship; woman Jezebel 2:20-23	A name but are dead. 3:1b	NONE	Lukewarm; think they are rich; deceived. 3:15-17
Counsel	Repent and return to first love. 2:5-6	Be faithful until death. Crown of life. 2:10	Repent, or Jesus will fight with them. 2:16	Repent; hold fast until He comes. 2:24-25	Watch, strengthen that which remains 3:2-3	Hold fast to what they have. 3:11	Buy from Him gold and clothes; Open door to Him. 3:18-20
Closure (and Promise)	2:7 Closure First Promise: eat of tree of life.	2:11 Closure First Promise: not hurt by second death.	2:17 Closure First Hidden manna; White Stone: New name on it	2:26-29 Power over nations; Reward of Jesus Himself Closure Last	3:5 Confessed before Father. White garments Closure Last	3:12 Pillar in the temple Name of God & Jesus on them. Closure Last	3:21 Sit on throne with Jesus. Closure Last

Four Primary Applications

1. **Local-** Actual churches in Asia Minor (modern Turkey) with legitimate needs and concerns in the first century.
2. **Universal-** All are commanded to "hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches (plural)." These letters apply to all churches.
3. **Personal-** "He who has an ear... hear what the Spirit says..." These letters are to be applied to us personally.
4. **Prophetic-** Scholars have noted that when taken in the order given, the seven churches reflect the history of the church the last 2000 years.