

REVELATION 2:1-7

INTRODUCTION: This lesson is about **EPHESUS ... THE CHURCH THAT LEFT ITS FIRST LOVE.**

Chapters 2 and 3 show the Church in her _____ with “the world,” the “flesh,” and the “devil.” These churches were chosen because they represented certain _____ conditions that need to be highlighted throughout _____.

A REVIEW:

- Ephesus – Apostolic times ... starting to lose its first love.
- Smyrna – Persecuted Church of 100-300 AD.
- Pergamos – The State Church (joined to Rome, 312 and on).
- Thyatira – Roman Catholicism – fornication and idols.
- Sardis – The Reformation Church ... “alive” but “dead.”
- Philadelphia – “Brotherly Love” ... missionary church.
- Laodicea – The Apostate Church of the last days.

I: EPHESUS – THE CITY (the city closest to Patmos – map page 15)

1. A great _____ center. About _____ inhabitants.
2. In this city was one of the _____ of the _____. This temple of Diana was _____ feet long, _____ feet wide, with _____ marble pillars which were each _____ feet high (see Acts 19:24,28,35).
3. One of the most important cities in the New Testament.
 - Paul’s greatest _____ was there (Acts 20:31).
 - Twelve men were _____ in the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:1-7). Unholy _____ were cast out of many and _____ from Paul’s body brought _____.
 - Converts burned _____ worth much money.
 - Paul left _____ and _____ there (Acts 18:18-19)
 - Apollos came to know the _____ of _____ in a better way (Acts 18:24-26).
 - Paul was very _____ to the Ephesian elders (Acts 20:17-38).
 - Timothy became the first _____ of Ephesus (I Timothy 1:3).
 - The letter to the Ephesians is one of Paul’s _____.

II: EPHESUS – THE MESSAGE

1. Commendation
 - a) I know your _____ (v. 2)
 - b) I know your _____ (v. 2)
 - c) I know your _____ (v. 2)
 - d) You cannot bear those who are _____ (v. 2)
 - e) You have _____ those who say they are _____ (v. 2)

- f) And you have _____ (v. 3)
- g) And have _____, and have _____, and have not become _____ (v. 3)
- h) You hate the _____ of the _____ (v. 6)

2. Complaint

- a) You have _____ your _____ love (v. 4)

3. Counsel

- a) Remember from where you have _____ (v. 5)
- b) Repent and do the _____ (v. 5)

CONCLUSION: “He who has an _____, let him _____ what the _____ says to the _____” (v. 7).

The big word in verse 7 is the word _____. No denomination has ever made a _____, only _____ who battle forward as an _____!