



Hillside Baptist Church Sunday Night Study

An Exposition of Revelation

Letter to the Church in Sardis **Revelation 3:1-6**

I. The Opening Address and Self Identification of Christ (3:1a)

A. To the Angel of the church in Sardis

1. The city of Sardis was situated 50 or so miles east of Ephesus, on a northern outcrop of Mount Tmolus overlooking the fertile plain of the river Hermus.
2. Was known for its Golden past but at this time was in a state of great decline.

B. The Words of Him

1. Who has the seven spirits of God (Rev. 5:6; Isaiah 11:1-2; Zech. 3:9)
2. And the Seven Stars (Rev. 1:16)

*** These statements shout Jesus' sovereign Lordship!**

II. A Word of Criticism (3:1b-2)

A. I know your works...

1. You have the reputation [name] of being alive, but you are dead
2. For I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.

B. Wake up and strengthen what remains and is about to die.. (1 Pet. 5:8; Ezek. 34:4)

III. An Exhortation and Warning (3:3)

A. Remember, then, what you received and heard.. (Jude 3)

1. Keep it and repent.

2. If you will not wake up...
 - i. I will come like a thief (1 Thess. 5:2-4)
 - ii. You will not know what hour I will come against you (Matthew 24:42-44; 2 Peter 3:10)

IV. A Word of Hope (3:4)

- A. Yet you still have a few names..
 - people who have not soiled their garments (Jude 23)
- B. And they will walk with me in white.. (Rev. 7:9-10; 1 John 3:2-3)
- C. For they are worthy. (Rev. 6:9)

V. A Promise and a Call to Hear (3:5-6)

- A. The one who conquers... (The refusal to compromise)
 1. Will be clothed thus in white garments
 2. I will never blot his name out of the book of life (Dan. 12:1; Rev. 20:15; 21:27)
 3. I will confess his name before my Father and his angels (Matt. 10:32)
- B. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Application

1. We must be vigilant in identifying the state of our spiritual life—individual & Corporate.
2. Christ stands ready to help!
3. Are you awake and ready for the Day?