

Study 7: Revelation 3:1-6

SARDIS

A. The Characteristics of the City: The secular state

Sardis was:

1. Wealthy – its former King, Croesus, was renowned for his wealth.
2. Well defended – it appeared impregnable, so its people were proud and self-sufficient.
3. Waning – life was too easy and safe, so its people had become decadent and degenerate.

B. The Condition of the Church: The spiritual state

1. The DESCRIPTION of the Speaker

1:4, 16; 3:1

- > “the seven spirits...” the Giver of all true life
- > “the seven stars...” the essential light comes from Christ’s hand and is upheld by Him.

2. The REVELATION

3:1

“*I know...*” used reproachfully. Severity not sympathy!

3. The CONDEMNATION

3:1-2 (Note the change of order)

- > A false reputation
- > Asleep
- > Almost dead
- > Half hearted (Incomplete works)

4. The CAUTION

3:2-3

- > Wake up!
- > Remember
- > Obey – continually and with diligence.
- > Repent – urgent, immediate.

Otherwise judgement will come to the church as stealthily as defeat came to the city.

5. The COMMENDATION

3:4

Even in Sardis there were a few faithful undefiled names.

6. The EXPECTATION for the overcomer

3:5

- > White garments – speak of purity and joy
- > Will walk with God
- > Will be rewarded
 - (i) With eternal life – your name written in the Book of Life
 - (ii) With eternal fellowship –you will walk with Christ in glory
 - (iii) With eternal favour – your name will be acknowledged before the Father and the holy angels

*“Watch, as if on that alone
Hangs the issue of the day;
Pray, that help may be sent down;
Watch and Pray!”*
