

The New Testament Church – An Examination of the Churches in the book of Revelation

Scripture References	Name and Location	Characters Involved	Events and Time Frame	Additional Notes	Strengths/Weaknesses
Acts 18:23-19:41; Rev. 2:1-7	<i>The church at Ephesus</i>			<i>We already mentioned this previously.</i> Repent	Works, labour, patience, fainted not, exposed false teachers and false apostles, hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans, suffered for Christ, BUT left their first love.
Rev. 2:8-11	The church in Smyrna	Satan had imprisoned some of the church members.		Synagogue of Satan Crown of Life Remain Faithful	Works, tribulation, and poverty. prison. Rich in Christ. NO WORDS OF CORRECTION from CHRIST!
Rev. 2:12-17	The church in Pergamos	Antipas – my faithful martyr.		Center of Satanic worship: Satan’s seat. Repent	Martyrdom, Loyal to Christ, refuse to deny my faith. But tolerated immorality, tolerated Balaam & Balac; fornication; Nicolaitans.
Rev. 2:18-29	The church in Thyatira	Jezebel – immoral, woman prophetess.		 Repent	Thy works, charity, service, faith and patience, and thy works. BUT permitted a prophetess, Jezebel to teach immorality and idolatry were okay, and participated in immorality with her.
Rev. 3:1-6	The church in Sardis			Appearance of life but are dead. Repent	Thy works, Some are pure and solid disciples. They were told to be watchful and to strengthen the things which remain.
Rev. 3:7-13	The church in Philadelphia			Kept from the hour That no man take thy crown.	Thy works, kept my word, and not deny my name. Small but strong church; commended by Christ. NO WORDS OF CORRECTION from CHRIST!
Rev. 3:14-22	The church of the Laodiceans			 Repent	Thy works, Lukewarm, on the verge of apostasy. Their view of themselves were far from God’s view of them.

1. God dealt with each individual churches – Meaning – there was no universal church.
2. God dealt with each individual churches through each “angel” or messenger (pastor).
3. God knows the exact spiritual condition of each church.
4. God commends some and commands others to repent. (Revival or Removal)
5. God is interested only in churches during this dispensation. (The Church-Age)
6. No churches are mentioned after Rev. 3 until Rev. 22. This points to the fact that the churches are not appointed unto wrath.