Types of the Church in the Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia

(From Through New Eyes by James Jordan)

Ephesus: Eden and the Fall		
2:1 the Lord walking among tree-like lampstands (Ex.37:19-21)	The Lord walking in Eden (Gen. 3:8)	
2:4-5 falling from the first love	Adam's fall	
Reward:		
2:7 tree of life; paradise of God	Genesis 2:9	
Smyrna: The Patriarchs, especially Joseph		
2:8 death and resurrection	Rom. 4:19; Gen. 25:21; 29:31; Gen. 22:1-14; Heb. 11:17-19	
2:9 poverty and riches	Heb. 11:9; Counterfeit Isaac, Gen. 21:9; Gal. 4:22-31	
Reward:		
2:10 prison & elevation to the crown	Gen. 39, 41	
Pergamum: The Exodus and Wilderness		
2:13 Satan's environment	Wilderness, Matt. 4:1; 12:43	
2:14 Balaam	Num. 22-24; 31:16	
2:14 Balak	Num. 25:1-3	
2:16 sword against fornicators	Phineas, Num. 22:31; 25:7-8; 31:8	
Reward:		
2:17 hidden manna	Heb. 9:4 (manna hidden in ark)	
2:17 white stone	Ex. 28:9-12; Zech. 3:5-9	
Thyatira: The Davidic Monarchy		
2:18 bronze legs	Jachin & Boaz, 1 Kings 7:15-22	
2:20 Jezebel	1 Kings 16, 21	
2:22 great tribulation	1 Kings 17; Rev. 12:6; 13:5	
2:23 God searches the heart	Psalms of David, esp. Ps. 51, 139	
Reward:		
2:26-27 Kingly rule	The Davidic Son, Psalm 2	
2:28 the morning star	Root of David, Rev. 22:16	
Sardis: Jeremiah and the Later Prophetic Period		
3:1 almost dead	Judgment and exile	
3:3 invasion like a thief	Sack of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar (cp.	
	Luke 12:39; Rev. 16:15; the sack of	
	Jerusalem by Titus)	
3:4 soiled garments	the garments of Joshua, Zech. 3	
Reward:		
3:5 white garments, Christ defending us against	Zech. 3	
Satan before the Father		

Philadelphia: The Return from Exile	
3:7 restored David	Zerubbabel, Zech. 4
3:8 little power	The post-exilic community (Ezra,
	Nehemiah)
3:8 open door	World influence (Esther)
3:9 false Jews	Ezra 4; Neh. 4, 6, 13
3:10 hour of testing	The invasion of Antiochus Epiphanes, Dan. 11
Reward:	
3:12 Rebuilt Temple	Haggai, Zechariah, Ezekiel 40-48
3:12 Inscribed Name	Zechariah 3:5, 9; 14:20
Laodicea: The Period of Christ and the Apostles	
3:15-16 Lukewarm	Jews of Jesus' day
3:16 Spit you out of His mouth	Lev. 18:24-28; Luke 21:24
3:20 The Lord's Supper	New Covenant sacrament
Reward:	
3:21 Enthronement	Rev. 20:4-6