

EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

**“BEING A RESTORED HUMAN”**



## **“JESUS SPEAKS TO CHURCHES”**

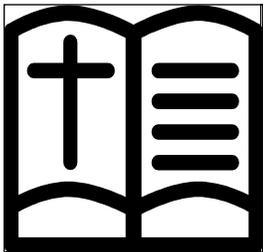
### **REVELATION 3:1-6 Part 6**

#### **I. THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD**

- A. *Jesus chooses the churches He does to warn the churches of the rest of the age the direction it is going*
- B. *It is the illuminating, life-giving Spirit of God that is to be the energy and power of its existence; but He has been disinvited and neglected, substituted with methods of man and décor unbecoming the lowly, humble Jesus of the gospels Isa 11:2; Mt 8:20*
- C. *Sardis is the age of wealth and elaboration; this is the church of the Middle Ages; Gothic cathedrals; scholasticism; Greek and Latin wisdom and philosophy; the Crusades; chivalry; classical education; power is in the human mind not the Spirit of God*

#### **II. THE REPUTATION OF BEING ALIVE**

- A. *Jesus with the 7 Spirits of God declares them dead Isa 11:2; Zech 4:1-10*
- B. *Unfinished works - Works done to look good*
  - 1. *Scribes and Pharisees - Mat 23:1-5*
  - 2. *Works without the Spirit of God*
- C. *Faithful remnant - “...who have not defiled their garments...” garments given by the gospel!*
  - 1. *Adam and Eve after disobedience*
  - 2. *Scribes and Pharisees - Matt 23:1-5*
  - 3. *Jesus robbing the faithful - Rev 3:4b—5*

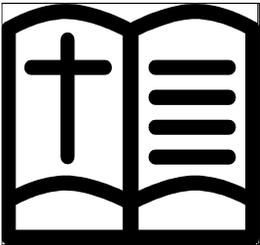


- D. Ceremony, ritual and costume; the gospel is getting lost; salvation is found in sacraments not simple faith; reformation, if not complete overhauling, is desperately needed but those in power could not see it nor did they want the loss of power
- E. The church had taken over the political power of Rome; it WAS the new Roman empire of the West; in the east, the Roman empire had become the Byzantine empire and was about to be overcome with the Muslim invasion in what would become the Muslim Caliphate; this is also the Islamic Golden Age

### III. JESUS' COUNSEL TO THOSE WHO COULD HEAR

- A. Be watchful - open your eyes to the struggle; the power of the gospel (Spirit) is being replaced with the power of politics and philosophy
- B. What remains of the gospel is about to die - strengthen it
  - 1. Remember how you have received and heard - It was not in philosophy or education but in Holy Spirit conviction. You are distracted with the intellect.
  - 2. Hold fast and repent! Treasure it; keep it; change your mind about its importance
- C. Jesus IS coming to them! If they are not counting the gospel important, He will come in total surprise to hold them accountable.

*It will take great courage to be an overcomer but it will come with great reward. Do we have our ears open?*



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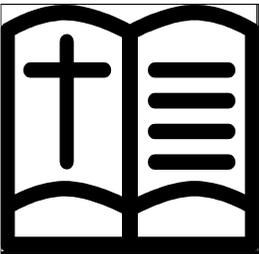
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