

the book of

REVELATION

sermon series

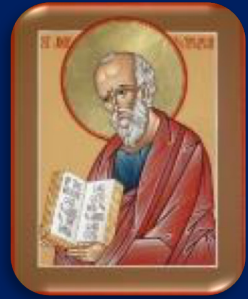


Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Answering Ten Questions



- 1) What is the title – **Revelation of Jesus Christ**
- 2) Who wrote it? – **John**
- 3) Where was it written from? – **Patmos**
- 4) To Whom was it written? – **The Seven Churches**
- 5) When was it written? – **A.D. 95**
- 6) How is it organized (outline)? – **3 part outline**
- 7) How was it delivered – **Seven steps**
- 8) Why was it written? – **Encouragement and holiness**
- 9) What is it about? – **Jesus' final victory**
- 10) What makes the book different? – **OT relationship**

Prologue (Rev. 1:1-8)

- I. Title (1a)
- II. Chain of Communication (1b-2)
- III. Blessing (3)
- IV. Author (4a)
- V. Audience (4b)
- VI. Greeting (4c)
- VII. Source (4d-5a)
- VIII. Subject (5b-8)



Revelation 1:19

“Therefore write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after these things [meta tauta].”



Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



Revelation 1:19

- Seen (Chapter 1)
- Are (Chapters 2–3)
- After these things (Chapters 4–22)



The 7 Churches in Revelation

Rev. 1:11



Pattern of the Letters in Revelation 2–3

1. Destination
2. Description of Christ (Rev. 1)
3. Commendation
4. Rebuke
5. Exhortation to change
6. Consequence
7. Exhortation to listen
8. Promise to overcomers (Rev. 21–22)



DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES

Revelation 2–3

CHURCH	SCRIPTURE	DESCRIPTION
Ephesus	2:1-7	Loveless
Smyrna	2:8-11	Persecuted
Pergamum	2:12-17	Compromised
Thyatira	2:18-29	Corrupt
Sardis	3:1-6	Dead
Philadelphia	3:7-13	Missionary
Laodicea	3:14-22	Man-centered

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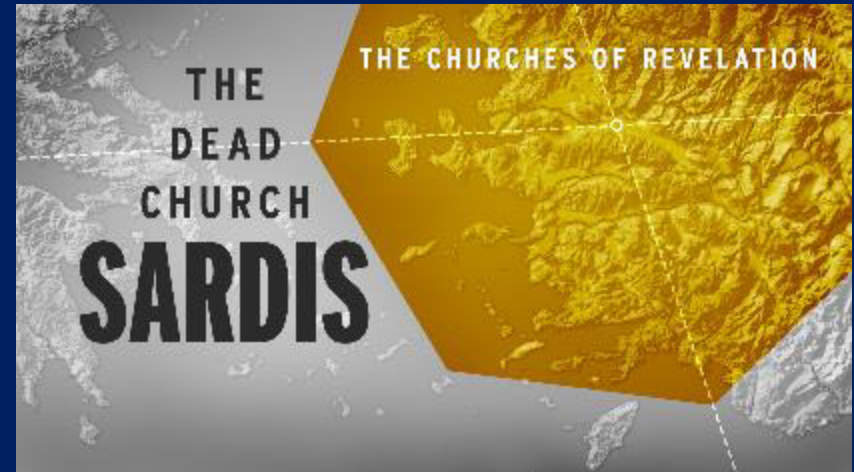
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Sardis

Revelation 3:1-6

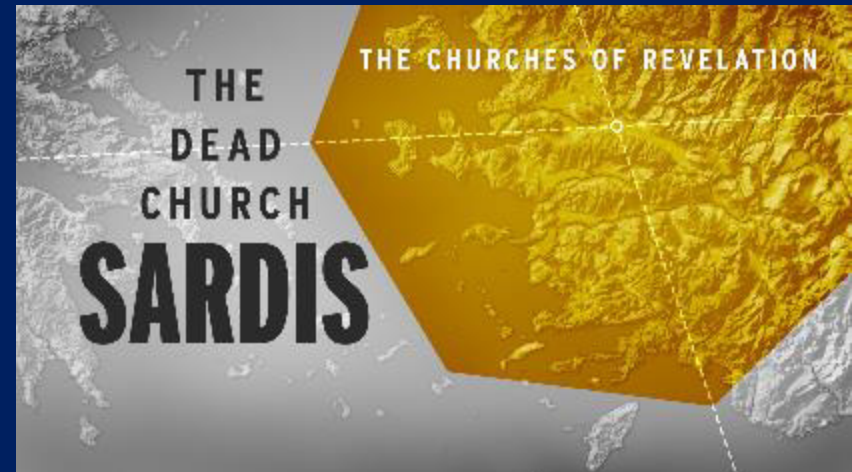
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Sardis

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The 7 Churches in Revelation

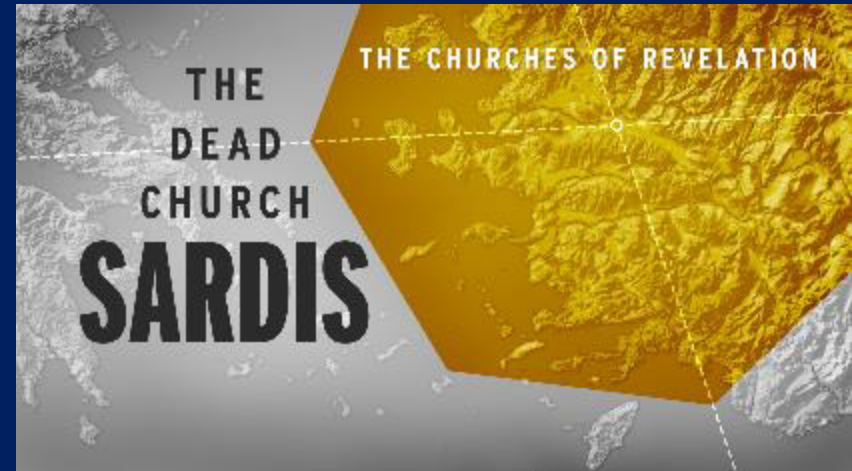
Rev. 1:11



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- A. Has the seven Spirits of God
- B. Has the seven stars



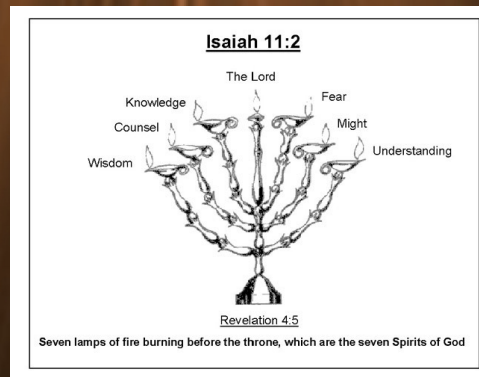
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- B. Has the seven stars



Isaiah 11:2

“The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.”



2. Description of Christ to Thyatira (Rev. 3:1b)

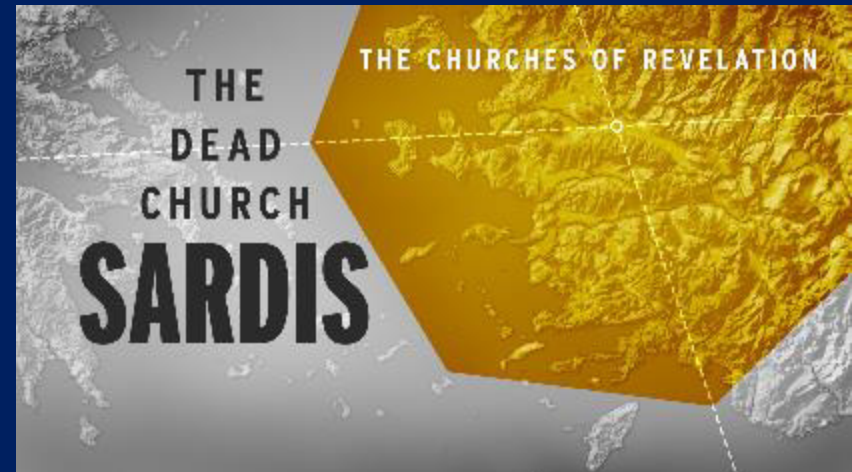
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Sardis

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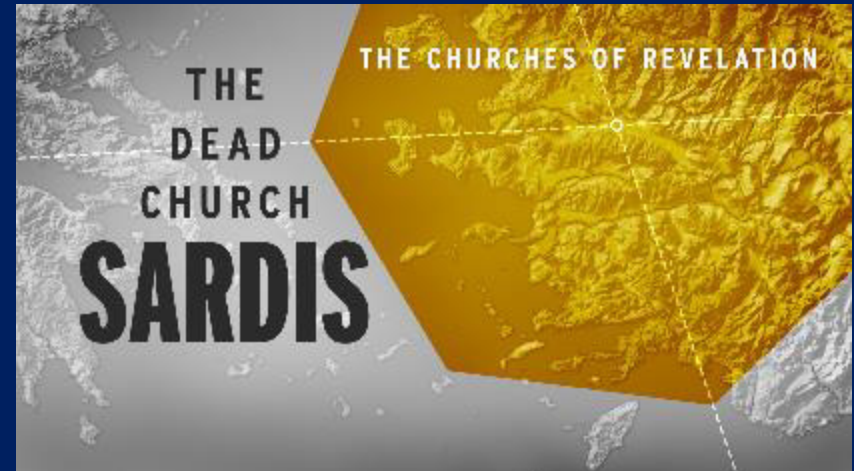
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Sardis

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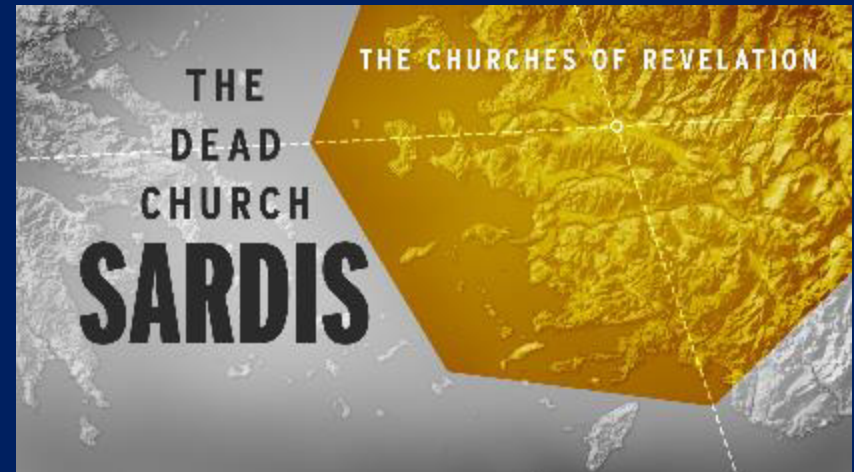
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Sardis

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5. So What? - Points of Application!

Rev 3:2a-3c

“² Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. ³ So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent.”



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Grant R. Jeffrey

Apocalypse: The Coming Judgment of the Nations, p. 84-85.

“In a practical way, Christ encouraged them to ‘strengthen the things that remain.’ If there is to be a revival in a spiritually dying church, we must start with the small remnant and build upon their faithful prayers and devotion to Jesus Christ. Just as in Gideon's army, God delights to accomplish His great victories with a small remnant. Then it will be obvious to all that it is God who has won the victory, not man. The message to the church at Sardis reminds us that no matter how dead a church or denomination may be, God still has ‘a few names...who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white, for they are worthy.’ The prayer of every believer should be that they shall join that faithful remnant and walk with Him.”

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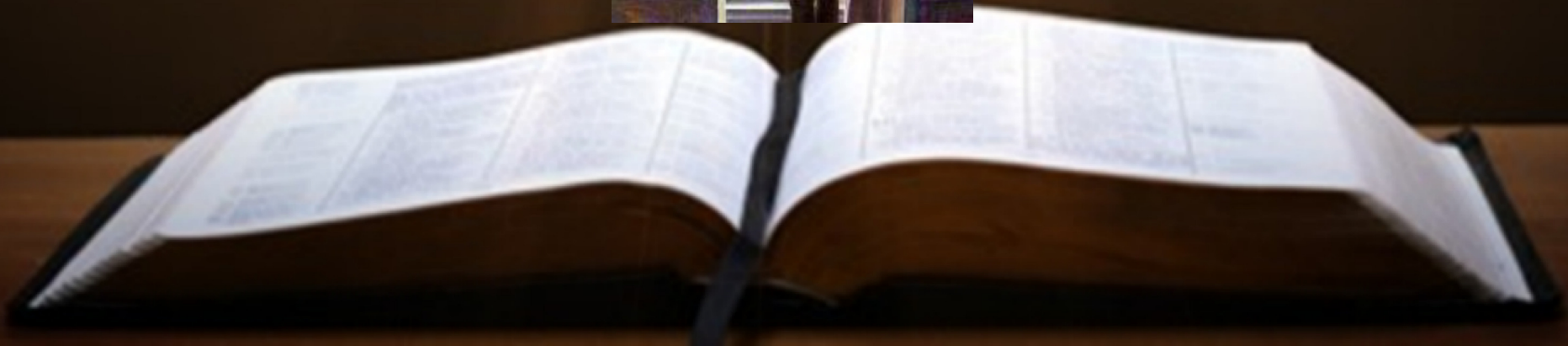
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1 Corinthians 3:14-15

“¹⁴ If any man’s work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. ¹⁵ If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.”



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5. So What? - Points of Application!

Rev 2:5

“Therefore remember from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first; or else I am coming to you and will remove your lampstand out of its place—unless you repent.”



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Lewis Sperry Chafer

vol. 7, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids,
MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 265-66.

[A] serious Arminian error respecting this doctrine occurs when repentance is added to faith or believing as a condition of salvation. It is true that repentance can very well be required as a condition of salvation, but then only because the change of mind which...has been involved when turning from every other confidence to the one needful trust in Christ. Such turning about, of course, cannot be achieved without a change of mind.



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This vital newness of mind is a part of believing, after all, and therefore it may be and is used as a **synonym** **for believing** at times (cf. Acts 17:30; 20:21; 26:20; Rom. 2:4; 2Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9). **Repentance** nevertheless cannot be added to believing as a condition of salvation, because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31).

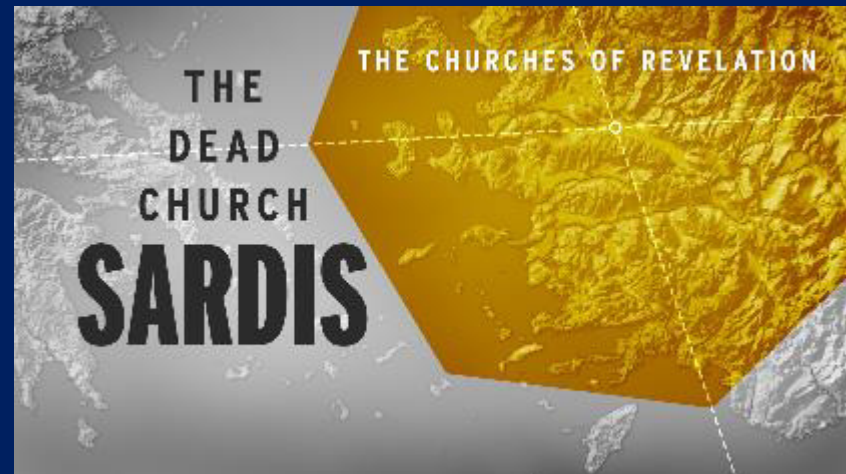
Three Tenses of Salvation

Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10

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John 10:27-29

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; ²⁸ and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish [*ou mē; aiōnia*]; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand.”



Matthew 7:13-14

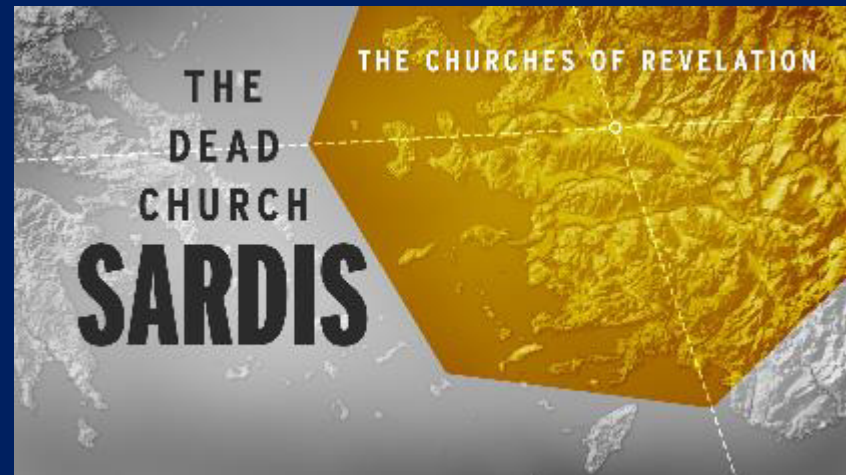
“¹³ Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. ¹⁴ For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.”



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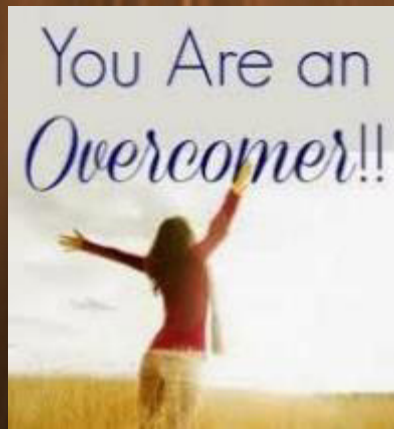
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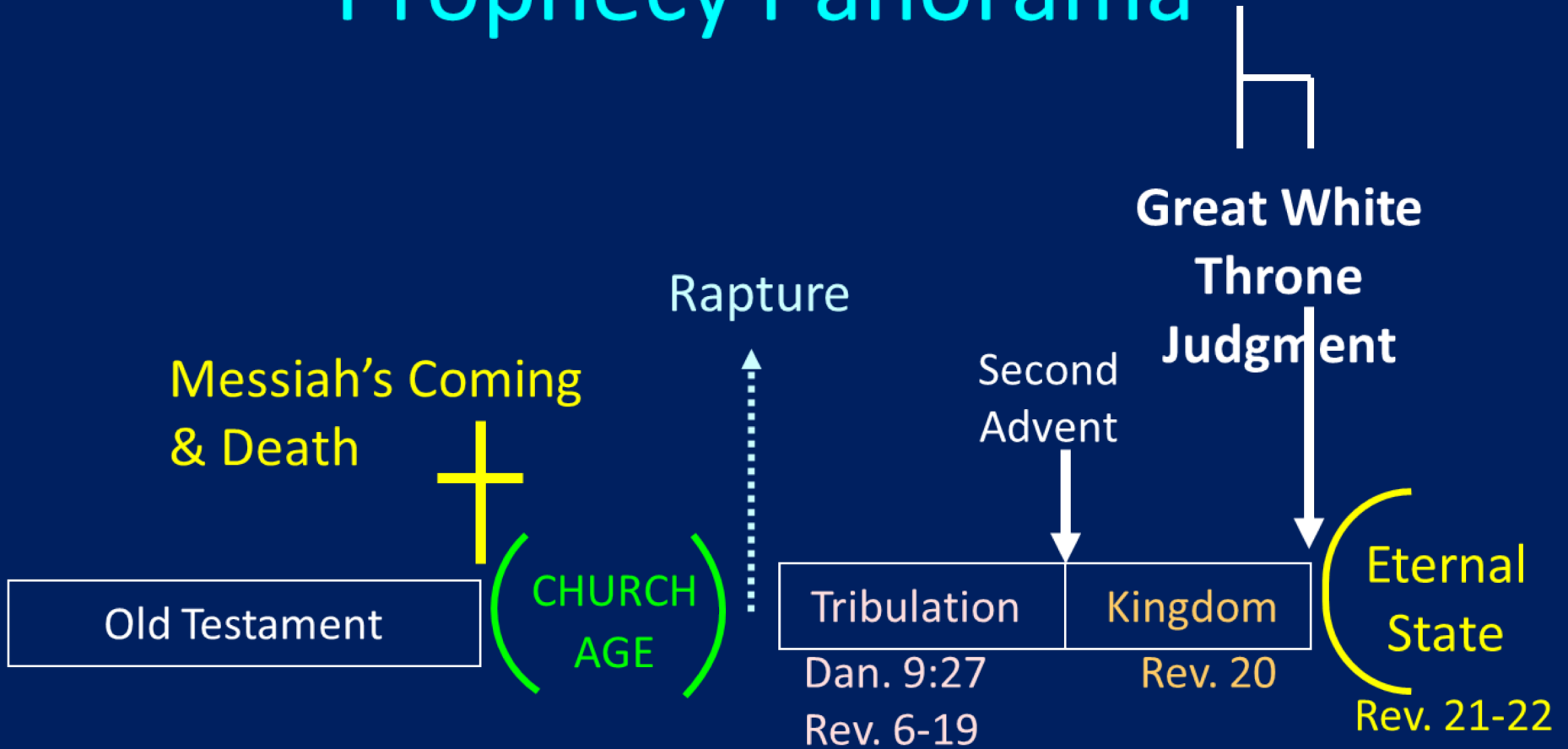


1 John 5:4-5

“⁴ For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. ⁵ Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”



Prophecy Panorama



7. Christ's Promises to Overcomers in Thyatira (Rev. 3:5)

- A. Clothed in white – 5a
- B. Name not erased from the Book of Life – 5b
- C. Confession name before Father & Angels – 5c



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Revelation 3:5

“He who overcomes [*nikaō*] will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”



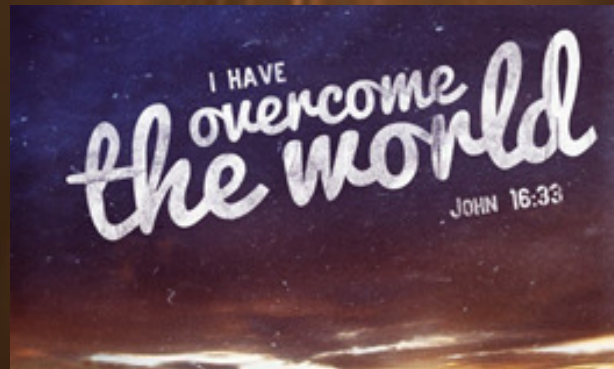
Romans 8:37

“But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer [*hypernikaō*] through Him who loved us.”



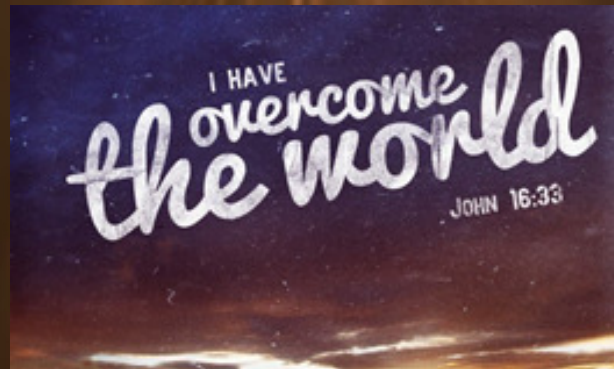
John 16:33

“These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome [*nikaō*] the world.”



1 John 4:4

“You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.”



1 John 5:4-5

“For whatever is born of God overcomes [*nikaō*] the world; and this is the victory that has overcome [*nikaō*] the world—our faith.⁵ Who is the one who overcomes [*nikaō*] the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”



Revelation 3:5

“He who overcomes [all believers; *nikaō*] will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not [*ou mē*] erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”



Exodus 32:32

“But now, if You will, forgive their sin—and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!”



Psalm 69:28

“May they be blotted out of the book of life And may they not be recorded with the righteous.”



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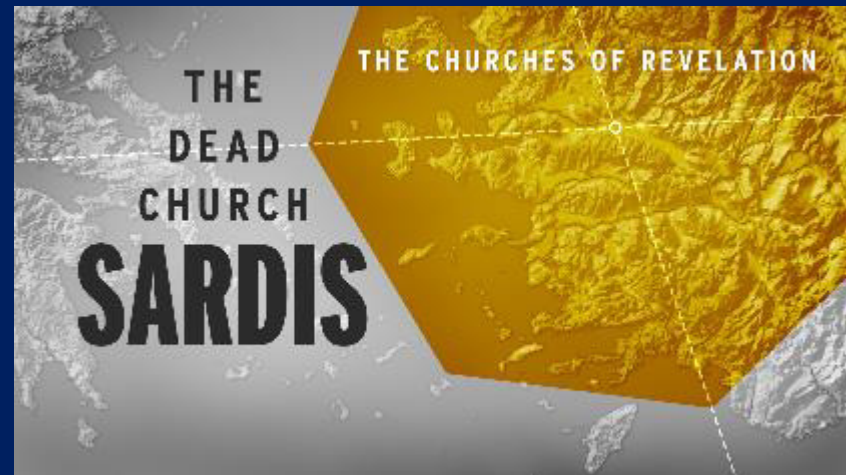
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Deuteronomy 6:4-7

⁴ “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!...⁶ These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.”

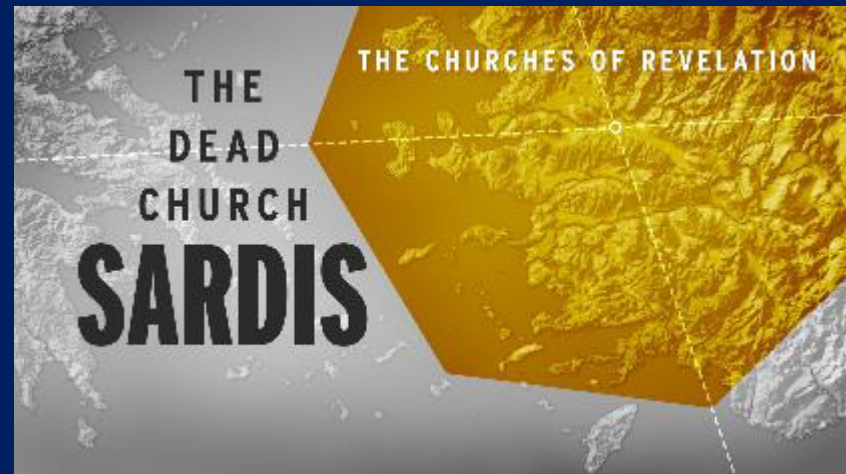


Conclusion

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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)