

the book of

# REVELATION

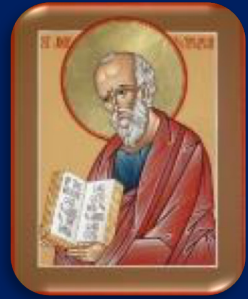
sermon series



**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

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

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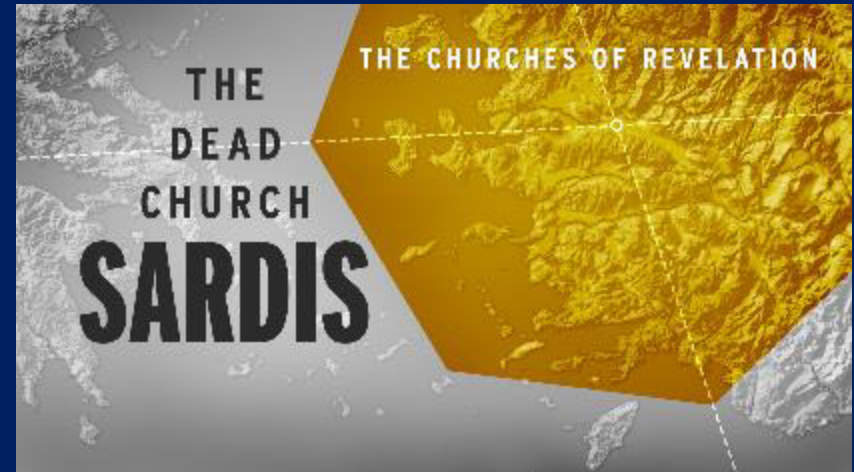
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Revelation 3:1-6

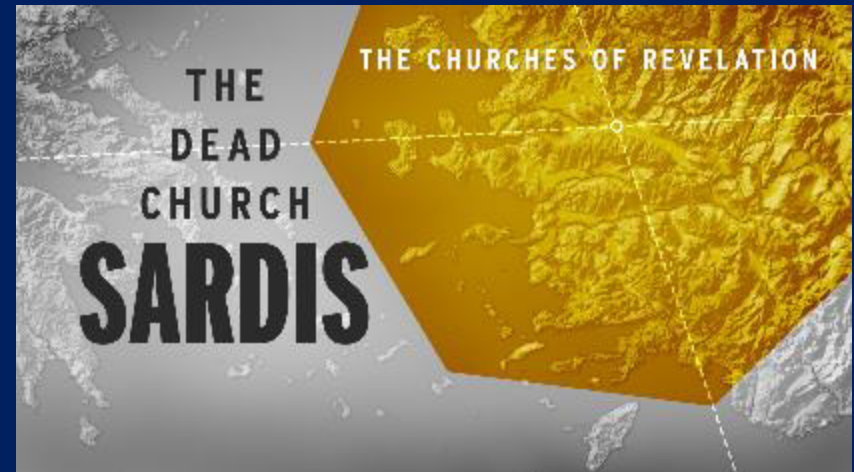
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# The 7 Churches in Revelation

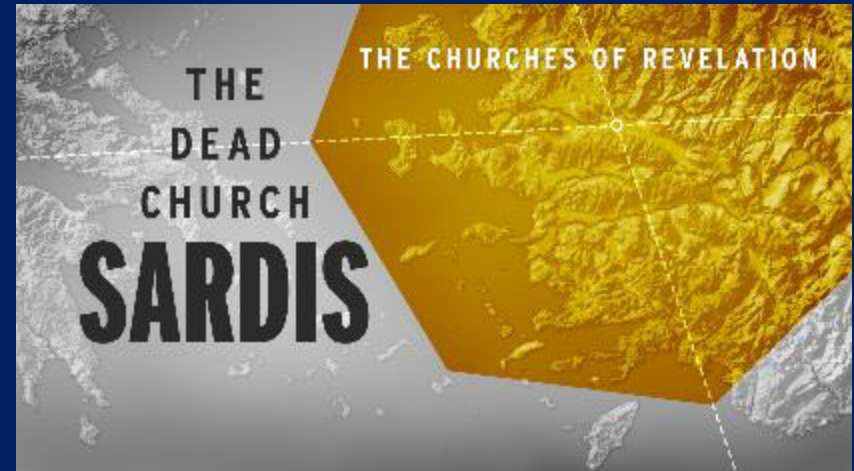
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## 2. Description of Christ to Sardis (Rev. 3:1b)

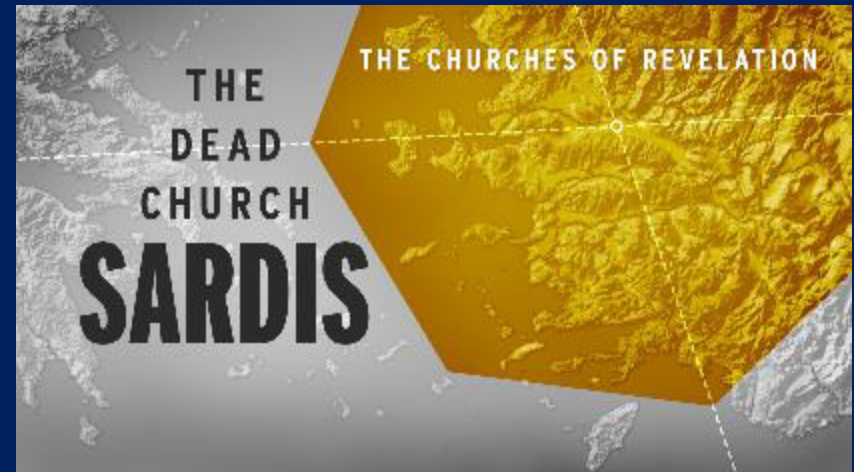
- A. Has the seven Spirits of God
- B. Has the seven stars



# Sardis

Revelation 3:1-6

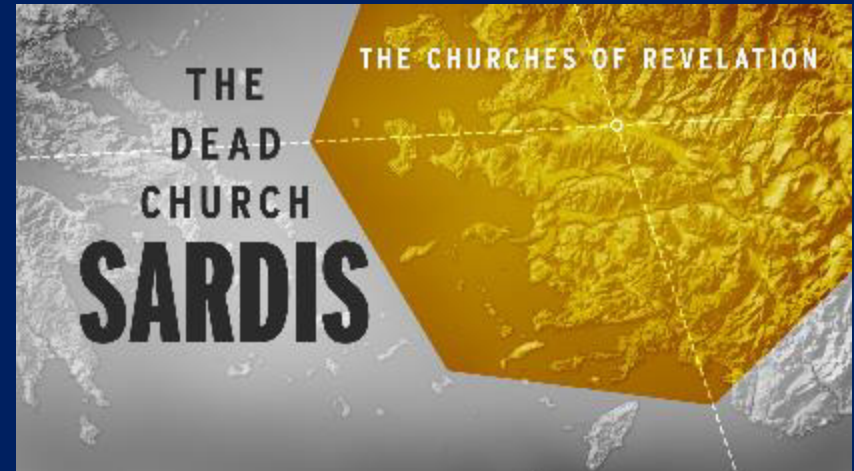
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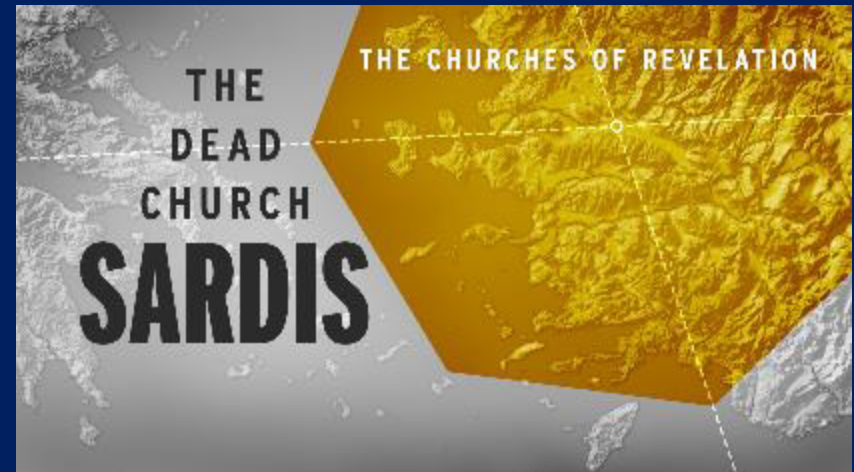
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# 5. So What? - Points of Application!

Rev 3:2-3c

“<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent.”

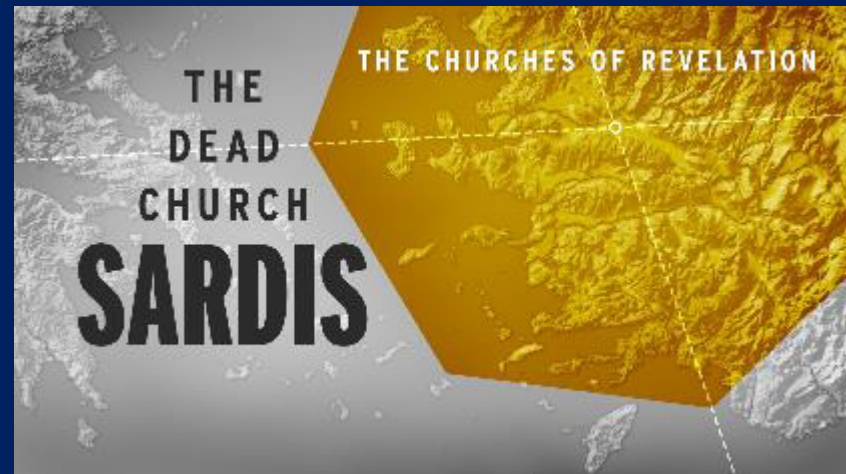




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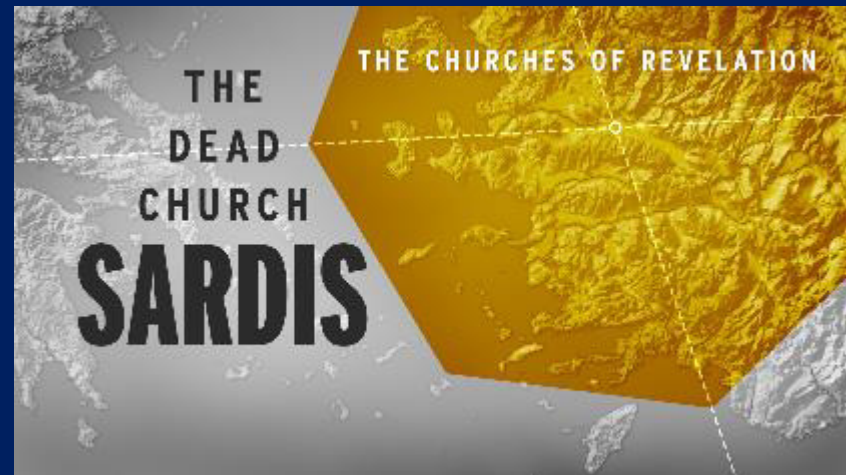
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# 7. Promise to the Overcomers

Rev 3:5

“He who overcomes 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.”



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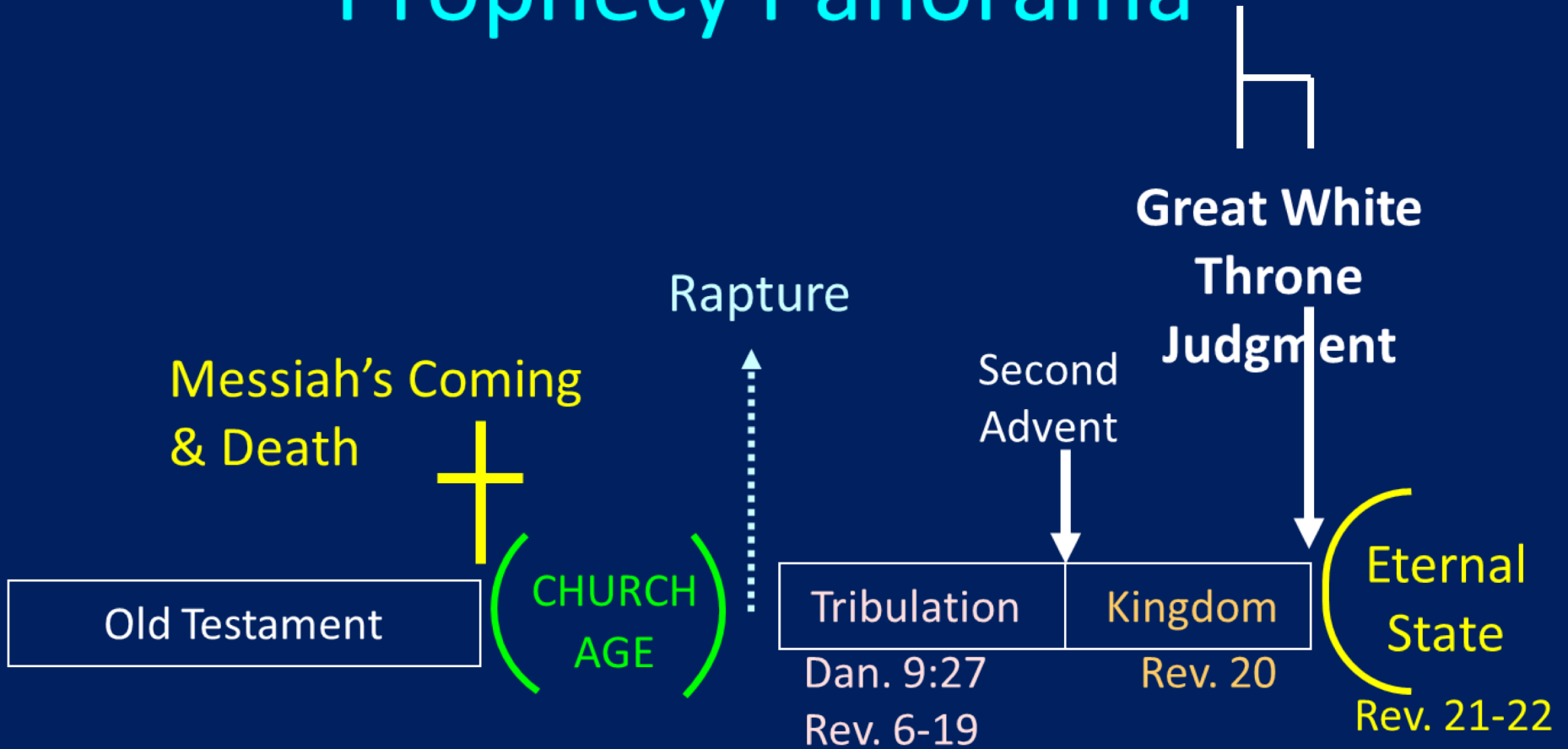


# 1 John 5:4-5

“<sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup> 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 Sardis (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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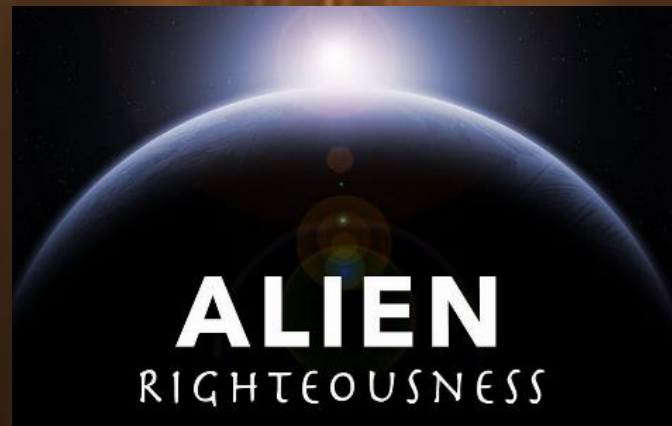
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# Philippians 3:9

“and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith.”



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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 12:21

“Do not be overcome [*nikaō*] by evil, but overcome evil with good.”



# 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.”



# Revelation 5:5

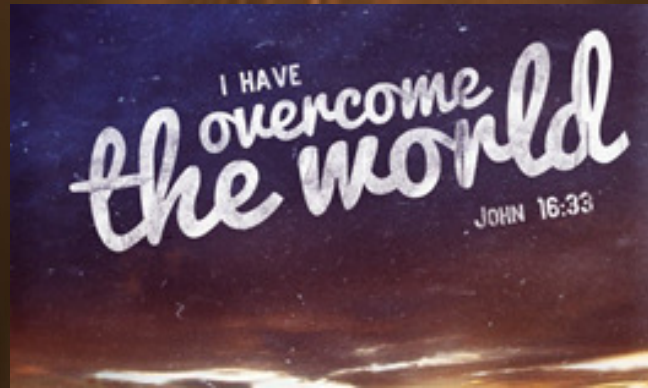
“and one of the elders said to me, ‘Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome [*nikaō*] so as to open the book and its seven seals.’”





# 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*; perfect tense] the world.”



# 1 John 4:4

“You are from God, little children, and have overcome [*nikaō*; perfect tense] 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.<sup>5</sup> Who is the one who overcomes [*nikaō*] the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”



# Romans 8:37

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



Conquerors  
<<Romans 8:37<<



## Revelation 21:6-8

“<sup>6</sup> Then He said to me, ‘It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. <sup>7</sup> He who overcomes [*nikaō*] will inherit these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. <sup>8</sup> But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part *will be* in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.”



# Revelation 3:5

“He who overcomes [all believers; *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.”



# “Overcomer” in Revelation 3:5?

## INCORRECT VIEW

## CORRECT VIEW

Imperative verb

Articular participle

Command

Modifies pronoun “he”

Prescriptive

Descriptive

The believer must overcome

The believer is an overcoming one

What the believer ought to do

Who the believer already is

Conditions

Statements of fact

Possible benefit

Inevitable benefit

Motivation in the present through potential loss

Motivation in the present through what’s inevitably theirs

Keep performing to maintain your position

Let your practice catch up to your position

Position kept through human works

Position maintained through divine grace

## Revelation 3:5

“He who overcomes [all believers; *nikaō*] will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not [ou mē; not ever, no not ever] erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”





## John 10:27-29

<sup>27</sup>“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; <sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> 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.”



# Philippians 4:2-3

“2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord.<sup>3</sup> Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in *the cause of* the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.”



# Luke 10:17, 20

“<sup>17</sup> The seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name’....<sup>20</sup> ‘Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.’”



# 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.”



# Two Books

<b>TITLE?</b>	<b>Book of Life</b>	<b>Lamb's Book of life</b>
<b>KIND OF LIFE RECORDED?</b>	<b>Physical life</b>	<b>Spiritual life</b>
<b>WHEN RECORDED?</b>	<b>Conception</b>	<b>Regeneration</b>
<b>WHICH TESTAMENT?</b>	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>New Testament</b>
<b>SCRIPTURE?</b>	<b>Exod. 32:32; Ps. 69:28</b>	<b>Luke 10:20; Rev. 3:5; 20:12, 15</b>

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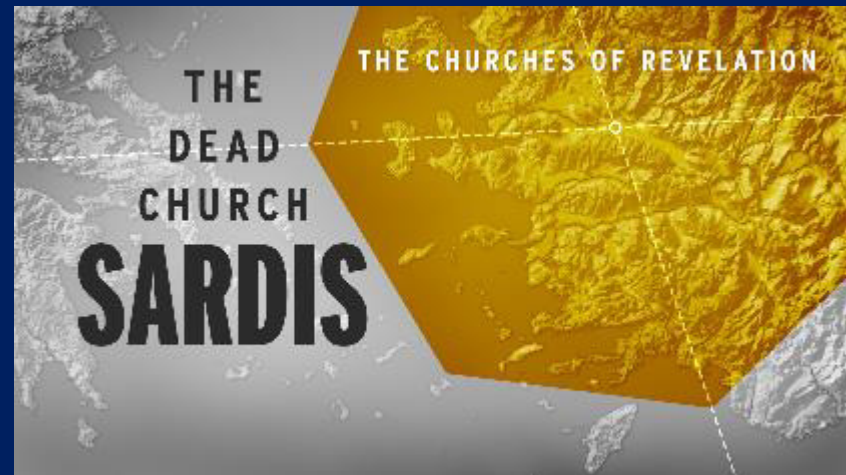




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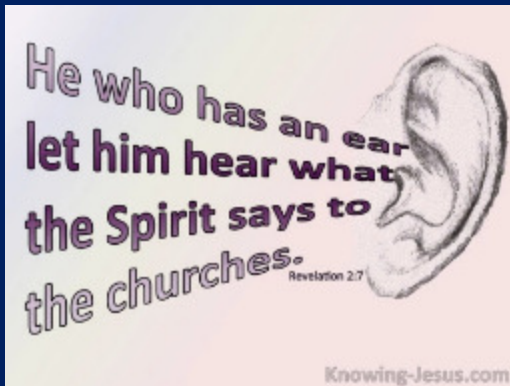
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## 8. Exhortation to Listen

Rev 3:6

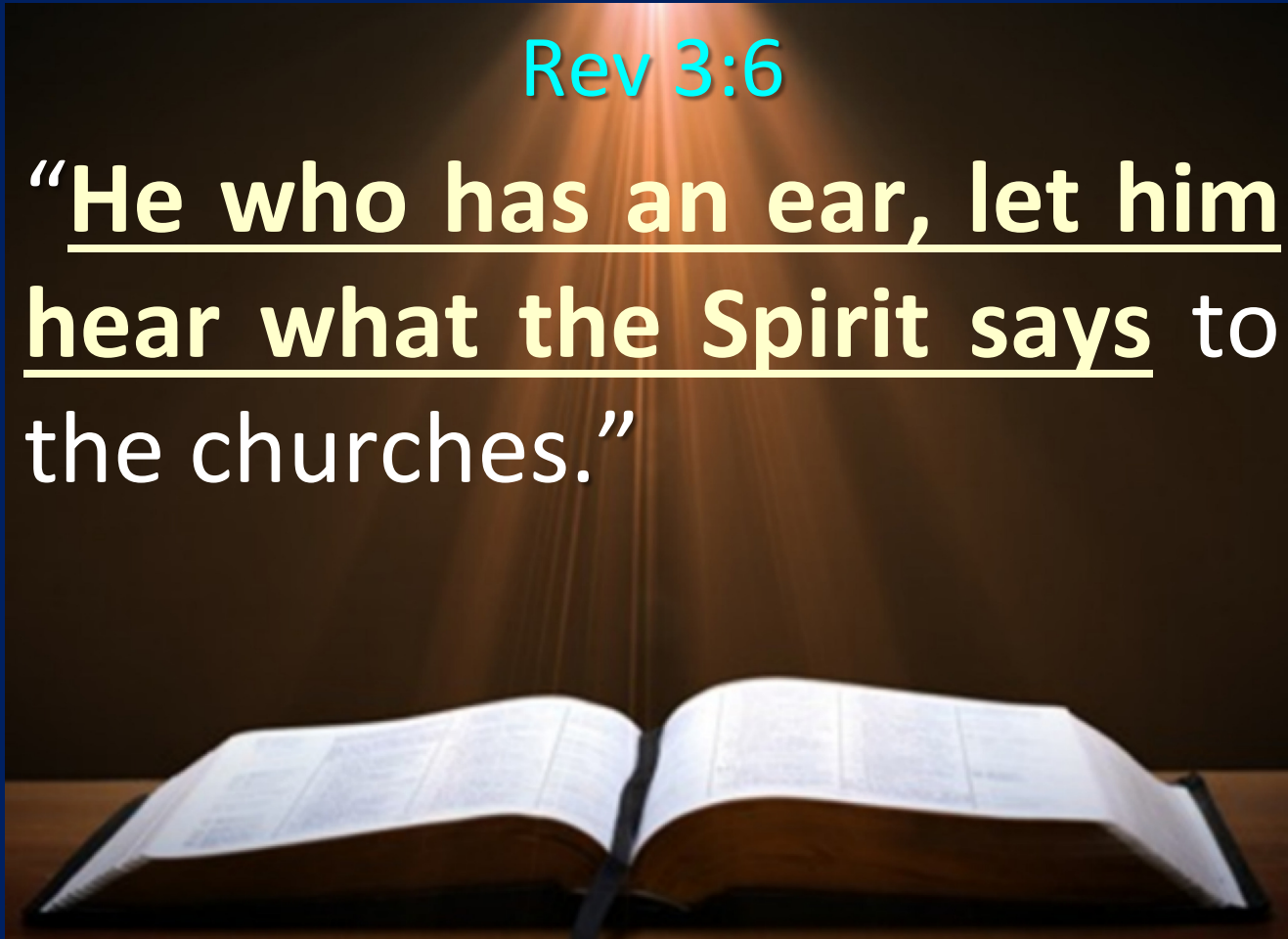
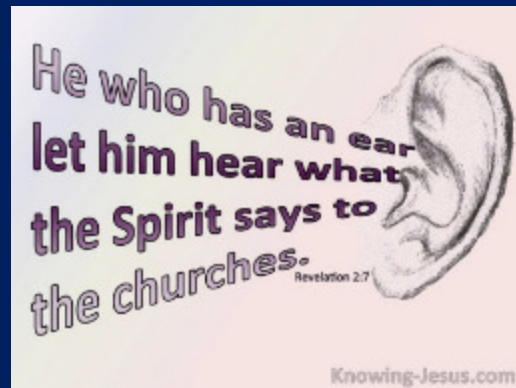
“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”



## 8. Exhortation to Listen

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## Deuteronomy 6:4-7

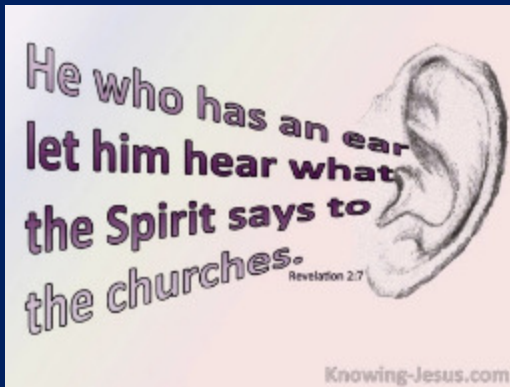
<sup>4</sup> “Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!...<sup>6</sup> These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. <sup>7</sup> You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you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



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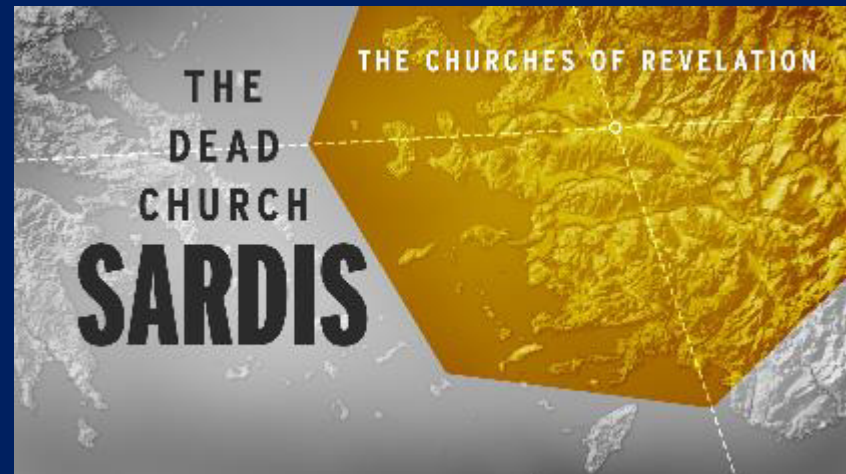


Conclusion

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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)