

CHURCHES OF THE REVELATION

REV. 2-3

- City
- ⦿ Cities of the Seven Churches
- Major road



A Letter from Christ

(Revelation 2-3)

Points to Ponder

- ✿ The symbolic use of 3, 7, & 10: 3 = the Godhead, 7 = completeness, whole, & 10 = perfection.
- ✿ Note that 10 is the sum of 3 + 7. This establishes that a godly man (“like God”) is perfect; blameless & upright (**Genesis 17:1, Deuteronomy 18:13, 1st Kings 8:54-61, Matthew 5:48, Ephesians 4:11-16, Colossians 1:24-29, & 1st Peter 5:8-10**).
- ✿ Although each letter was written to a specific congregation, the message held in each letter is amenable to the Church as a whole. Christ repeats 3 expressions, 7 times, that verifies this truth: “
 - ✿ *“To the angel of the church of...write”* (**2:1, 8, 12, 18, 3:1a, 7, & 14**).
 - ✿ *“I know your works”* (**2:2, 9, 13, 19, 3:1b, 8, & 15**).
 - ✿ *“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches”* (**2:7, 11, 17, 29, 3:6, 13, & 22**).

“To the angel of the church...write”

“To the angel” = responsibility; accountability (**Luke 19:11-27**)

✳️ Shepherds, Overseers (**1st Peter 5:1-4, Hebrews 13:17**)

✳️ Preacher, Evangelist (**Titus 1:5, 1st Thessalonians 2:9-12**)

✳️ Father, Husband (**Psalms 78:1-8, 1st Peter 3:3-7**)

“write” = authority; power of Christ’s Law (**Romans 16:25-27**)

✳️ The set standard (**Isaiah 8:19-20, Galatians 1:6-11**)

✳️ Divine guidance (**2nd Timothy 3:16-17, 2nd Peter 3:1-2**)

✳️ Provides judgment (**John 12:42-50, Revelation 22:14-15**)

“*I know your works*” = intimate, personal relationship (**Psalm 33:18-19**)

✿ Reminder of His promise to His church (**Matthew 28:19-20**)

✿ Confirms that nothing is hidden from Him (**Psalm 139:1-12**)

✿ Reveals His guarding, watchful eyes (**John 10:27-30**)

✿ Validates the fairness of His Judgment (**1st John 3:18-22**)

✿ Exposes the folly of trying to “mock” Christ (**Psalm 14**)

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

“He who has an ear, let him hear” = a universal call to heed instruction (**Proverbs 15:31-33**)

✳ A call to humility (**James 1:21-25**)

✳ A warning against rejection (**John 3:31-36**)

✳ An exhortation for self-examination (**Lamentations 3:40-41**)

“what the Spirit says to the churches” = the Divine fount from whence the lessons proceed (**2nd Kings 17:7-14**)

✳ Who speaks (**Acts 7:51-53**)

✳ To whom He speaks (**Titus 2:11-15**)

✳ Purpose of His message (**Hebrews 2:1-4**)

Summary of
Christ's letter...to
Us; His church.

(Romans 15:4-6)

✦ Christ's message is a universal
message that is applicable to all
His church (2nd Timothy 3:16-17)