

# The Seven Churches (Rev. 2 & 3)

## Scriptures

#	Church	Character of Christ	Approval	Failures and Warnings	Overcomer
1	Ephesus	... he that holdeth the <b>seven stars</b> in His <b>right hand</b> , and walketh in the midst of the <b>seven golden candlesticks.</b> (2:1)	... I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: and hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. (2:2, 3) ... thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans. (2:6)	... thou hast left thy <b>first love</b> . Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy <b>candlestick</b> out of his place, except thou repent. (2:4, 5)	He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (2:7) ... to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the paradise of God. (2:7)
2	Smyrna	... the <b>first</b> and the <b>last</b> , which was <b>dead</b> and is <b>alive.</b> (2:8)	... I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, but thou art rich. (2:9)	no failures mentioned	He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (2:11) ... he that overcometh shall not be hurt of the <b>second death.</b> (2:11)
3	Pergamos	... he which hath the sharp <b>sword with two edges.</b> (2:12)	... I know thy works ... thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith ... Antipas was my faithful martyr. (2:13)	... where thou dwellest, even where <b>Satan's seat</b> is. (2:13) ... thou has them that hold the doctrine of <b>Balaam</b> , who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto <b>idols</b> , and to commit <b>fornication</b> . So has thou also them that hold the doctrine of the <b>Nicolaitans.</b> (2:14, 15)	He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (2:17) ... to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the <b>hidden manna</b> , and will give him a <b>white stone</b> , and in the stone a <b>new name</b> written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (2:17)
4	Thyatira	... the <b>Son of God</b> , who hath his <b>eyes</b> like unto a flame of fire, and his <b>feet</b> are like <b>fine brass.</b> (2:18)	... I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. (2:19) ... hold fast till come ... (2:25)	... thou sufferest that <b>woman Jezebel</b> , which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit <b>fornication</b> and to eat things sacrificed unto <b>idols.</b> (2:20)	... he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give <b>power over the nations</b> : and he shall rule them with the <b>rod of iron</b> ; as the vessels of the potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the <b>morning star.</b> (2:26, 27, 28) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (2:29)
5	Sardis	... he that hath the <b>seven Spirits</b> of God, and the <b>seven stars.</b> (3:1)	... I know thy works. (3:1) (but they had a name that thou livest, and art dead) ... come on thee as a thief ... (3:3)	... thou hast a <b>name</b> that thou <b>livest</b> , and art <b>dead.</b> (3:1) ... things that are ready to die: for I have not found thy <b>works</b> perfect before God. (3:2)	... he that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in <b>white raiment</b> ; and I will not blot out his name out of the <b>book of life</b> , but I will <b>confess his name</b> before my Father and before his angels. (3:5) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (3:6)
6	Philadelphia	... he that is <b>holy</b> , he that is <b>true</b> , he that hath the <b>key of David</b> , he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth. (3:7)	... I know thy works. ... thou hast little strength, and hast kept <b>my word</b> , and not denied <b>my name.</b> (3:8) (Kelly) ... thou hast <b>kept the word</b> of my patience. (3:10) ... I come quickly ... (3:11)	... little strength. (3:8) (Kelly)	... keep thee from the <b>hour of temptation</b> ... him that overcometh will I make a <b>pillar</b> in the <b>temple of my God</b> , and he will go no more out: and I will write upon him the <b>name of my God</b> and the <b>name of the city of my God</b> , which is new <b>Jerusalem</b> , which cometh down from heaven from my God: and I will write upon him <b>my new name.</b> (3: 12) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (3:13)
7	Laodicea	... the <b>Amen</b> , the <b>faithful</b> and <b>true witness</b> , the beginning of the <b>creation of God.</b> (3:14)	... I know thy works. (3:15) (but they were neither cold nor hot) ... I will spue thee out of my mouth ... (3:16) (after His coming)	... I will <b>spue thee out</b> of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. (3:16, 17)	... to him that overcometh will I grant to sit upon <b>my throne</b> , even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in <b>his throne.</b> (3:21) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (3:22)

## The Seven Churches #2 (Rev. 2 & 3) (Symbols)

#	Church	Character of Christ	Failures and Warnings	Overcomer
1	Ephesus	<b>seven</b> - spiritual completeness <b>stars</b> - subordinate authority <b>right hand</b> – hand of power <b>midst</b> - Divine Center ( <b>Matt. 18:20</b> ) <b>golden</b> - divine righteousness <b>candlesticks</b> - responsible vessels of light on earth	<b>first love</b> - Christ as object of our life	<b>to eat</b> – to meditate <b>tree of life</b> - food for heavenly inhabitants, constant refreshment <b>paradise of God</b> - place out of man's influence
2	Smyrna	<b>Son of Man</b> - His humanity ( <b>1:13</b> ) <b>first and last</b> - beginning and ending <b>dead and alive</b> - death and resurrection		<b>second death</b> - eternal separation from God <b>crown of life</b> – for those who die for Christ (see <b>James 1:12</b> ) for those who live and suffer for Christ
3	Pergamos	<b>sharp sword</b> - searching judgment of Word of God <b>two edges</b> - affects the heart and conscience	<b>Satan's seat</b> - God of this world <b>Nicolaitans</b> - flesh acting in church or human order in church <b>Balaam</b> - (man) a symbol of responsible activity <b>come as a thief</b> - ( <b>16:15, Matt. 25:1-12</b> ) treated as the world	<b>hidden manna</b> - golden pot in ark for a memorial (remembrance of Christ), once humbled and rejected one known in heaven <b>white stone</b> - special approval from the Lord <b>new name</b> - mark of supreme authority
4	Thyatira	<b>Son of God</b> - His Deity <b>eyes</b> - all-searching judgment <b>fire</b> - penetrating judgment <b>feet</b> - firmness <b>fine brass</b> - righteousness in dealing with man's responsibility	<b>fornication</b> - illicit commerce with the world <b>eat things sacrificed to idols</b> - association with false worship of devils <b>Jezebel</b> - (woman) a symbol of the general state <b>woman</b> - church in its governing form <b>harlot</b> - church in its corrupting form <b>morning star</b> - harbinger of day as Christ in known to saints before the day comes	<b>power and rule</b> - reigning with Christ <b>rod of iron</b> - power of the kingdom
5	Sardis	<b>seven Spirits of God</b> - Spirit in completeness ( <b>Is. 11:2</b> ) <b>seven stars</b> - completeness of subordinate authority		<b>white raiment</b> - recognition of righteousness <b>book of life</b> - register of Christian profession (true or false - contrast to Christ ( <b>3:14</b> ))
6	Philadelphia	<b>holy</b> - Character of God <b>true</b> - Character of God <b>key</b> – power in administrative responsibility to God <b>key of David</b> - delegated authority <b>door</b> - entrance	no failure mentioned but had little strength	<b>pillar</b> - responsible position <b>temple of God</b> – God's dwelling with man <b>new name</b> - mark of supreme authority
7	Laodicea	<b>Amen</b> - ending <b>faithful and true witness</b> - ( <b>1:5</b> ) as representing God on earth <b>creation of God</b> - beginning	<b>spue out of mouth</b> - false church rejected by Christ seen later in Revelation <b>lukewarm</b> - little love for things of Christ	<b>throne</b> - royal seat of authority and government <b>my throne</b> -will be set up on earth during millennium <b>my Father in His throne</b> -the Lord is presently at right hand of God ( <b>Heb.1:3</b> ) and will give all things into His hand in eternal state. ( <b>1 Cor. 15:24-28</b> )