

The Seven Churches (Rev. 2 & 3)

Scriptures

#	Church	Character of Christ	Approval	Failures and Warnings	Overcomer
1	Ephesus	... he that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand , and walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks. (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 first love . 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 candlestick 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 first and the last , which was dead and is alive. (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 second death. (2:11)
3	Pergamos	... he which hath the sharp sword with two edges. (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 dwest , even where Satan's seat is. (2:13) ... thou has them that hold the doctrine of Balaam , who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols , and to commit fornication . So has thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. (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 hidden manna , and will give him a white stone , and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it. (2:17)
4	Thyatira	... the Son of God , who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire , and his feet are like fine brass. (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 woman Jezebel , which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. (2:20)	... he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations ; and he shall rule them with the rod of iron ; 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 morning star. (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 seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars. (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 name that thou livest, and art dead. (3:1) ... things that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. (3:2)	... he that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment ; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life , but I will confess his name 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 holy , he that is true , he that hath the key of David , he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and no man openeth. (3:7)	... I know thy works. ... thou hast little strength, and hast kept my word , and not denied my name. (3:8) (Kelly) ... thou hast kept the word of my patience. (3:10) ... I come quickly ... (3:11)	... little strength. (3:8) (Kelly)	... keep thee from the hour of temptation ... him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God , and he will go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God , which is new Jerusalem , which cometh down from heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. (3: 12) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches ... (3:13)
7	Laodicea	... the Amen , the faithful and true witness , the beginning of the creation of God. (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 spue thee out 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 my throne , even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. (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	<p>seven - spiritual completeness</p> <p>stars - subordinate authority</p> <p>right hand – hand of power</p> <p>midst - Divine Center (Matt. 18:20)</p> <p>golden - divine righteousness</p> <p>candlesticks - responsible vessels of light on earth</p>	<p>first love - Christ as object of our life</p>	<p>to eat – to meditate</p> <p>tree of life - food for heavenly inhabitants, constant refreshment</p> <p>paradise of God - place out of man's influence</p>
2	Smyrna	<p>Son of Man - His humanity (1:13)</p> <p>first and last - beginning and ending</p> <p>dead and alive - death and resurrection</p>		<p>second death - eternal separation from God</p> <p>crown of life – for those who die for Christ (see James 1:12) for those who live and suffer for Christ</p>
3	Pergamos	<p>sharp sword - searching judgment of Word of God</p> <p>two edges - affects the heart and conscience</p>	<p>Satan's seat - God of this world</p> <p>Nicolaitans - flesh acting in church or human order in church</p> <p>Balaam - (man) a symbol of responsible activity</p> <p>come as a thief - (16:15, Matt. 25:1-12) treated as the world</p>	<p>hidden manna - golden pot in ark for a memorial (remembrance of Christ), once humbled and rejected one known in heaven</p> <p>white stone - special approval from the Lord</p> <p>new name - mark of supreme authority</p>
4	Thyatira	<p>Son of God - His Deity</p> <p>eyes - all-searching judgment</p> <p>fire - penetrating judgment</p> <p>feet - firmness</p> <p>fine brass - righteousness in dealing with man's responsibility</p>	<p>fornication - illicit commerce with the world</p> <p>eat things sacrificed to idols - association with false worship of devils</p> <p>Jezebel - (woman) a symbol of the general state</p> <p>woman - church in its governing form</p> <p>harlot - church in its corrupting form</p> <p>morning star - harbinger of day as Christ in know to saints before the day comes</p>	<p>power and rule - reigning with Christ</p> <p>rod of iron - power of the kingdom</p>
5	Sardis	<p>seven Spirits of God - Spirit in completeness (Is. 11:2)</p> <p>seven stars - completeness of subordinate authority</p>		<p>white raiment - recognition of righteousness</p> <p>book of life - register of Christian profession (true or false - contrast to Christ (3:14))</p>
6	Philadelphia	<p>holy - Character of God</p> <p>true - Character of God</p> <p>key – power in administrative responsibility to God</p> <p>key of David - delegated authority</p> <p>door - entrance</p>	<p>no failure mentioned but had little strength</p>	<p>pillar - responsible position</p> <p>temple of God – God's dwelling with man</p> <p>new name - mark of supreme authority</p>
7	Laodicea	<p>Amen - ending</p> <p>faithful and true witness - (1:5) as representing God on earth</p> <p>creation of God - beginning</p>	<p>spue out of mouth - false church rejected by Christ seen later in Revelation</p> <p>lukewarm - little love for things of Christ</p>	<p>throne - royal seat of authority and government</p> <p>my throne-will be set up on earth during millennium</p> <p>my Father in His throne-the Lord is presently at right hand of God (Heb.1:3) and will give all things into His hand in eternal state. (1 Cor. 15:24-28)</p>