



http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation%202:1-11&version=NKJV

The Lord Jesus evaluates His church



Following on from chapter 1, the first part of Revelation ("the things you have seen") is the second part in chapters 2-3 ("the things that are"). These chapters contain the letters to the seven churches which existed at that time in Asia Minor.

However, at the same time God shows in these letters a prophetic outline of the history of the church on this earth until the end. Each single letter is a real spiritual challenge for each church today as well as for each individual Christian. It is therefore worthwhile to study them in detail. The letters all follow the same structure:

- a. The Lord Jesus presents Himself
- b. Praise (some exceptions)
- c. Rebuke (some exceptions)
- d. Promise to the overcomer



- 6. What does the Lord Jesus rebuke in Ephesus, despite their good condition?
- 7. What would happen if Ephesus did not repent over their sin?
- 8. How long would the suffering in Smyrna last? What promise is there for the martyrs?



The symbolic language of Revelation, part 3

- "Seven lampstands" = Christians should let their light shine on the earth, by witnessing for the Lord Jesus
- "Angel of the church" = the symbolic representative of the church



How is your love for the Lord Jesus?

Part 1: God's church history:

Ephesus = the time after the death of the apostles (1st century)

Smyrna = the time of persecution of Christians (2nd and 3rd century)

note	6. The Lord Jesus rebukes Ephesus because they have left their first love (v4). 7. The Lord Jesus would take their lampstand away. They would then no longer be a witness for Him (v5). 8. The time of suffering will last 10 days, ie a time limited by God. The martyrs are promised to receive the "crown of life" (v10).
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