

Dead or alive?



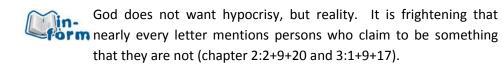
The Lord Jesus had to tell the Christians in Sardis (vv1-6) that they may have a good testimony, but that the multitude is dead, without new life. This is the decisive question: Do you just call yourself a Christian, or do you have life from God?

Yet there are still such in Sardis – sadly only "a few names" (v4) – who belong to the Lord Jesus and to whom He gives wonderful promises.

Philadelphia (vv7-13) may have only a little strength, but the Lord Jesus recognises that they use this strength to cling to Him and to live for Him.



- 12. What does the Lord Jesus say about the works in Sardis?
- 13. What happens with the names of the real believers who are written in the book of life (v5)?
- 14. What does the Lord Jesus promise to Philadelphia in verse 8?
- 15. What warning does Philadelphia receive (v11)?



Even if you believe that you have "only a little strength": Hold on to what the Lord Jesus has given you. God's Church History, part 3 Sardis = the time of the post-reformation church $(16^{th} - 18^{th}$ century) Philadelphia = the time of revivals $(19^{th} \text{ century})$

