



#SEVENCHURCHES

THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION





#SEVENCHURCHES

HEAR AND OBEY

@VINCEBROOKE







SEVEN STRUCTURED LETTERS

- Addressed to seven specific leaders and churches
- With an applicable “revealing” of Jesus for that specific church
- That spoke to the current condition of that church whether it needed encouragement or correction.
- That pointed out the consequences of neglect or disobedience
- Gave a promise to those that persevered in the instruction given
- And issued a challenge that we must “hear and obey”



Revelation 2:1–7 (ESV)

To the Church in Ephesus

1 “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

2 “ ‘I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. 3 I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name’s sake, and you have not grown weary.





4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. 6 Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'





1. WHO IS “THE ANGEL”

Revelation 2:1a (ESV)

1a “To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

Revelation 2:8a (ESV)

8a “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:





1. WHO IS “THE ANGEL”

33.195 ἄγγελοϛα, angelos - to tell, to inform,

1. a person who makes an announcement,
a messenger.

2. brings news of or about thy fathers coming,

3. a position that announces visitors to the King





WHAT'S THE "TAKEAWAY"

***AS THE LEADERS GO...
SO DOES THE CHURCH!***





2. THE “REVEALING” OF CHRIST TO EACH CHURCH (specifically and applicably from Revelations 1:12-20)

Revelation 1:12-20

12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.



16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

19 Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this.

20 As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.





2. THE “REVEALING” OF CHRIST TO EACH CHURCH

Revelation 2:1b (Ephesus)

1b - “The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands”.

Revelation 2:8b (Smyrna)

8b - “the words of the first and the last, who died and came to life”.

Revelation 2:12b (Pergamum)

12b - “The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword”.





3. THE “ENCOURAGEMENTS AND REBUKES”

Revelation 2:2-5a - To the Church in Ephesus -

2 I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false.

3 I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. 4 But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. 5a Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first.





3. THE “ENCOURAGEMENTS AND REBUKES”

Revelation 2:9-10 - To the Church in Smyrna -

9 “ I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.





WHAT'S THE "TAKEAWAY"

I THINK WE REALLY LOSE OUT ON ALL THE WAYS THAT GOD WANTS TO HELP AND INTERACT WITH US BOTH PERSONALLY AND CORPORATELY WHEN WE DONT REALIZE THAT HE IS ALREADY RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL WE ARE DOING AND WANTS TO BE THERE.





4. THE “CONSEQUENCES” OF FAILURE TO CHANGE

Revelation 2:5b - To the Church in Ephesus

5b - If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.





WHAT'S THE "TAKEAWAY"

OUR FAILURE TO OBEY WHAT GOD IS CLEARLY SPEAKING TO US ABOUT CAN JEOPARDIZE OUR OWN USEFULNESS IN KINGDOM PURPOSES. IT IS POSSIBLE TO LIVE IN A MANNER OF DISOBEDIENCE THAT WE HAVE "ZERO" AFFECT ON THE WORLD AROUND US.





5. THE “PROMISE” TO THE ONE THAT CONQUERS

Revelation 2:7b - To the Church in Ephesus

7b – “To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.”

Revelation 2:11b - To the Church in Smyrna

11b – “The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.”





6. THE “WAY BACK”... “HEAR AND OBEY”

Revelation 2:7a – to all the Churches

7a He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.





THE “SHEMA”

Deuteronomy 6:4-6

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.





THE “SHEMA”

“When God says “shema” it is an invitation for us to listen, to respond, to appreciate, to understand, and to act on what God is speaking to us about.”

- Rabbi Evan Moffic





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