

The Revelation of Jesus Christ

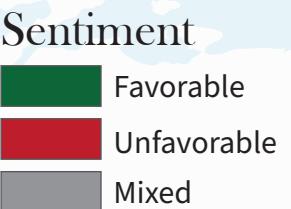
a composite interpretation by Shawn Handran

3 Pergamos tolerates immorality

- 2:13 You hold firmly to my name, and didn't **deny my faith**...
- 2:14 But I have a few things against you... you have some who hold the teaching of **Balaam**...
- 2:16 Repent therefore, or else I am coming to you quickly...
- 2:17 To him who overcomes, I will give of the hidden manna, and a white stone, and a new name written on the stone...

Πέργαμος

cf. Rev 14:12, Num 22-24, Jn 6:48-50



2 Smyrna a poor, suffering church

- 2:9 I know your works, oppression, and your poverty...
- 2:10 Don't be afraid... you will have oppression for **ten days**.
- 2:10 Be **faithful** to death, and I will give you the crown of life.
- 2:11 He who overcomes won't be harmed by the **second death**.

Σμύρνα

cf. Dan 1:12, Rev 17:14, 20:6,14, 21:8

1 Ephesus a church losing its zeal

- 2:2 I know your works, and your toil and perseverance...
- 2:4 But I have this against you, that you left your **first love**.
- 2:5 Remember from where you have fallen, and repent.
- 2:7 To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the **tree of life**

Ἐφεσός

cf. Jer 2:2, Gen 2:9, Rev 22:2

4 Thyatira tolerates idolatry

- 2:19 I know your works, your love, faith, service, patient endurance
- 2:20 But I have this against you, that you tolerate **Jezebel**...
- 2:25 Nevertheless, hold that which you have firmly until I come.
- 2:26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps my works to the end, to him I will give **authority over the nations**.

Θυάτερα

cf. 1 Ki 16:31, 21:25, 2 Ki 9:7, Dan 7:27

5 Sardis a dead church

- 3:1 I know your works, that you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.
- 3:2 Wake up and strengthen the things that remain...
- 3:3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard. Keep it and repent.
- 3:5 He who overcomes will be arrayed in **white**, and I will not blot out his **name**...

Σάρδεις

cf. Rev 13:8, 17:8, 19:8, 20:12, 20:15, 21:27

Numbers in Revelation

- 1 Uniqueness, God
- 2 Emphasis, certainty
- 3 Trinity, unity, fellowship
- 4 Nature, creation
- 6 Incomplete, imperfect, man
- 7 Perfection, fullness, totality
- 10 Completion, power
- 12 Israel, the church
- 1,000 Fullness, complete
- 144,000 $(12 \times 12) \times (10 \times 10 \times 10)$

◎ Megiddo

cf. 2 Ki 23:29, Zech 12:11, Rev 16:15-16

◎ Jerusalem & Mt. Zion

cf. Is 2,4,24,29,34,40,49,51-52,59-62,66; Jer 30-31, 50-51; Eze 8-9; Dan 9; Joel 2-3; Am 1,6; Ob 1; Mic 1,4; Zep 3; Zech 1,2,8-9; Rev 14:1

The resonance chamber of the Bible

Have I any pleasure in the death of the wicked? says the Lord GOD, and not rather that they should return from their way and live? Eze 18:23

6 Philadelphia a humble, faithful church

- 3:8 You have a little power, and kept my word, and didn't **deny my name**.
- 3:11 Hold firmly what you have, so no one takes your crown.
- 3:12 I will write on him the **name of my God** and the name of the **city of my God**, the **new Jerusalem**, which comes **down out of heaven** from my God, and my own new name.

Φιλαδέλφεια

cf. Rev 14:1 22:4, Eze 48:35, Rev 21:2, 10

This calls for patient endurance...

Revelation 1:9, 2:2, 2:3, 2:19, 3:10, 13:9-10, 14:12 see asterisks on Structure of Revelation graphic