

# Revelation

Led by Dr. Greg Butler - "PG"

Session 6

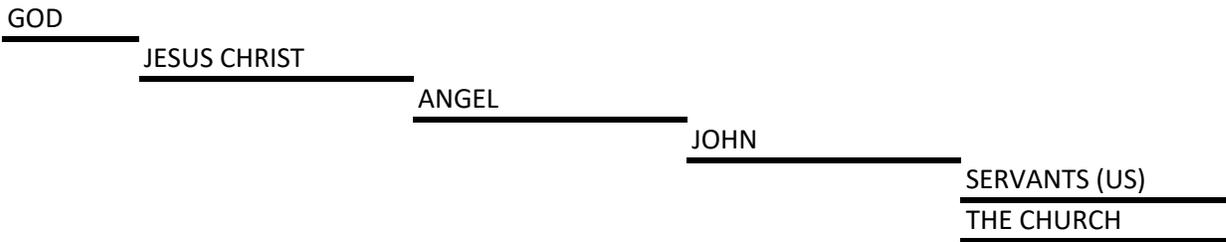
Chapter 2:8-17

It is **IMPOSSIBLE** to gain any understanding of Revelation without being born-again!

Remember....Only **GOD** has all the answers!

**WARNING!!! SATAN** does not want you to learn the **TRUTH** of God's plan!

## The "STEPS" OF REVELATION



Seven stars = messenger/\_\_\_\_\_ of seven churches. Seven lampstands = Seven churches.

## The Seven Churches

Each were a **CONGREGATION**.

Each had a spiritual **CONDITION**.

All but one had a **COMMENDATION**.

All but two had a **CONDEMNATION**.

All but two had a **CONSEQUENCE**.

Each represent seven basic \_\_\_\_\_ in church history.

Look at Revelation 2:1-7

## THE CHURCH AT SMYRNA - The "Congregation"

"Smyrna" means "myrrh" and carries the meaning of \_\_\_\_\_.

Smyrna was the church that suffered great \_\_\_\_\_. It is known as the "martyr" church.

Smyrna (modern day Izmir) was a wealthy city that had not time for Christians. The city was planned and built under the leadership of Alexander The Great. The city was the commercial center of Asia Minor.

The \_\_\_\_\_ segment was not religious and was neglectful of spiritual things.

Smyrna was a most \_\_\_\_\_ church in the face of persecution even unto \_\_\_\_\_.

THE CHURCH AT SMYRNA - The Condition

Smyrna was a \_\_\_\_\_ church. Smyrna was a \_\_\_\_\_ church.  
Smyrna was a " \_\_\_\_\_ " church. Smyrna was an \_\_\_\_\_ church.

Look at Revelation 2:8

THE CHURCH AT SMYRNA - The "Congregation"

John is writing to the "angel" (messenger/ \_\_\_\_\_) of the church in Smyrna.

The Glorified Christ emphasizes His eternal \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus identifies Himself as our eternal \_\_\_\_\_ Who prepared The Way through death to life!

Look at Revelation 2:9

THE CHURCH AT SMYRNA - The Commendation

The Lord is commending Smyrna for the "works" of the \_\_\_\_\_. It is important to note the word "works" is \_\_\_\_\_ in early manuscripts.

There are \_\_\_\_\_ things in this church The Lord commended:

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ - This is not referring to The Tribulation but to a season of many \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ - The church was in lack of material possessions. The early Christians were largely impoverished. Whenever a person of "means" or wealth joined the church in Smyrna, their possessions were confiscated because of their \_\_\_\_\_.

"(but you are rich)" Denotes the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of the church. They were blessed with all spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Look at Romans 9:1-8

The Jews who came to Christ in Smyrna were Jews \_\_\_\_\_ and outwardly.

Smyrna was a city full of Jews who disregarded their belief in The Old Testament. They became " \_\_\_\_\_ " in their faith.

Look at Revelation 2:10

- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ - The Lord gives the church \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of persecution.

- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ - The Lord advises the church of the \_\_\_\_\_ of all persecution.

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- 6. Tribulation 10 days - The persecuted church age suffered ten " \_\_\_\_\_ " of persecution.

Nero - A.D. 54-68 ( \_\_\_\_\_ beheaded / \_\_\_\_\_ crucified)

Dominian - A.D. 81-96 ( \_\_\_\_\_ exiled) Trajan - A.D. 98-117 ( \_\_\_\_\_ burned at the stake.)

Ignatius was an early Christian writer and bishop of Antioch.

Marcus Aurelius - A.D. 161-180 ( \_\_\_\_\_ killed.) He was an outspoken defender of the morality of the Christian life.

Severus - A.D. 193-211 / Maximinius - A.D. 235-238 / Decius - A.D. 249-251 / Valerian - A.D. 253-260

Aurelian - A.D. 270-275 / Diocletian - A.D. 284-305

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Diocletian was considered the worst emperor in Rome's history and the greatest opponent of the Christian faith.

Diocletian led a violent attempt to \_\_\_\_\_ The Bible from the face of the earth. Under his leadership many Roman cities had public burnings of The Scriptures.

During the second and third centuries, hundreds of Christians were brought into the amphitheater of Rome to be fed to lions while spectators cheered. Many were crucified; others were covered in animal skins and tortured to death by wild dogs. Many were covered in tar and set fire to serve as torches. Many were boiled in oil and burned at the stake. It has been estimated that five \_\_\_\_\_ Christians were martyred for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ - If the church will remain faithful, no matter the suffering or sacrifice, Christ will give them the \_\_\_\_\_ of the "crown" of eternal life.

Christ does not let "suffering saints" on this side of Glory go unnoticed or unrewarded.

Look at Revelation 2:11

"He who is born once will die twice; he who is born twice will die once." D.L. Moody

The "second death" is the death which no believer will experience.

The "first death" concerns the body. The "second death" concerns the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_; it is eternal separation from God. \_\_\_\_\_ believer will have to face this!

Look at Revelation 2:12-17

### The Church at Pergamum

The "\_\_\_\_\_ " Church The "\_\_\_\_\_ " Church A.D. 312-606

### The City

Pergamum was the \_\_\_\_\_ city of Asia Minor until the close of the first century.

Pergamum was on the seacoast and was not the commercial city like Smyrna.

It was one of the most \_\_\_\_\_ cities in Asia Minor.

It was a fortified, \_\_\_\_\_ city, built to withstand the enemy.

It was the place of great pagan \_\_\_\_\_ and had the world's largest pagan library.

The library had over \_\_\_\_\_ thousand volumes and was the one Mark Antony gave to Cleopatra.

It was a city that was big on Greek \_\_\_\_\_ worship. It was a \_\_\_\_\_ society.