

## REVELATION: CHAPTER 2

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### The Seven Churches

Before the cross section of the whole church could be introduced to the horrors of the apocalypse, they first had to look seriously at their respective conditions in preparation. It was a "heads up" considering their faithfulness and strength in light of the inevitable tribulation that was about to be inflicted on them by the Jews and the Roman Empire. Were they ready? Only the one(s) who overcame (*even to the point of martyrdom if necessary*) would be saved.

*"If you were a prisoner for your faith in Christ, in jail in Ephesus, and John wrote you a book telling you all about twentieth century politics, how much good and comfort and encouragement to keep the faith would that be to you?"*

Did You Miss the Rapture? - Mack Lyon  
Pgs. 32, 63

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### **Ephesus**

**Rev 2:1** Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith He that holdeth the seven stars in His right hand, Who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

- Ephesus- Chief city of Asia Minor. On the coast of Ionia it is known as one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. It was the location of the temple of the goddess Diana (*Artemas*), "she whom all Asia and the world worship" (*Act 19:27*). It came under control of Roman rule in 129 BC and was destroyed by the Goths in the middle of the third century AD (*Wikipedia*). As listed in 1:11, on a map of that day, the churches are in order with Ephesus the closest and the others in succession. Paul is responsible for establishing the church there (*Acts 19:1-10*).

*“If the Apocalypse was written around 65 or 66 AD, it was written shortly after Paul and Timothy visited Ephesus (1 Tim 1:3-4).”*

Arthur Ogden- Pg. 120

They were Gentile converts. (*Eph. 2:11*) These "messengers" (*stars*) were under Jesus' protection. He moves among the churches (*Matt. 18:20*).

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**Rev 2:2** I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

- Jesus knows all that goes on in the church (*Mat 28:20*). Their labor was not in vain (*1 Cor. 15:58*). The Ephesians knew the qualifications of an Apostle. Read *Act 1:21-22; 8:5-18; 20:18-19, 25; 2 Cor 11:13-15; 12:12; 1 Jn 4:1, 6.*

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**Rev 2:3** And hast borne, and hast patience, and for My name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

- Even under pressure they remained strong and were not ashamed of the One by Whom they were called. But...

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**Rev 2:4** Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

1Th 1:3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (*ESV*)

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1Ti 5:12 and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. (*ESV*) (*Read Paul's letter to the Ephesians.*)

- The church here kept her doctrinal purity, but...

1Ti 1:5 The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. (ESV)

...lost her focus to love those in error while trying to instruct them with the hope of their repentance.

2Ti 2:25 correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, (ESV)

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- love- Gk.26-ἀγάπη agapē / *ag-ah'-pay* / From G25; *love*, that is, *affection* or *benevolence*; specifically (plural) a *love feast*: - (feast of) charity ([*-ably*]), dear, love.

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**Rev 2:5** Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

Joh 4:23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in **spirit** and **truth**, for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him. (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

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- The one (*spirit*) is not effective without the other (*truth*). No matter how doctrinally sound a congregation may be, she is barren without spirit and without truth to match.

1Co 13:2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. (ESV)

Read Mat 5:14-16; 1 Tim 3:15.

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- If the church loses her influence (*light*) she can no longer have a place with Christ (3:21) and needs to repent. The first works of this congregation had a lot to

do with what launched the church at Ephesus (*her zeal for evangelizing the lost*) and made her so successful from her beginning. His "coming" here would be a visitation of judgment on Ephesus unless she rekindled her earlier zeal. (*Ex 32:34-35*)

Luk 19:44 ... And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because **you did not know the time of your visitation.** (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:6** But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

- Nicolaitans- (*Gk.3534-νίκος- nikos-nee'-kos- to conquer*) (*Gk.2992-λαός- laos-lah-os'- people*)

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- The Ephesians hated those who led God's people astray (*2:13, 14*). And so did/does Christ!

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**Rev 2:7** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

2Pe 1:21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were **carried along by the Holy Spirit.** (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. (*ESV*)

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- We are told in this verse that we are born of water (*baptism*) and the Spirit (*Act 2:38/Eph 5:26/Titus 3:5*)

Heb 3:7 Therefore, **as the Holy Spirit says,** "Today, if you hear His voice, (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

Heb 9:8 By this the **Holy Spirit indicates** that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

- And there are other verses that will show that the word of God was delivered by the Holy Spirit (2 Pet 1:21) to the recipients who in turn delivered them via their writings and or verbal lessons/sermons. The above are only a few of such verses.

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- him that overcometh- Only those who are found faithful even to the point of dying for their faith, if necessary, will partake “of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God”. (Rev 22:1-3). See also 1 Jn 4:4.

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### **Smyrna**

**Rev 2:8** And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the First and the Last, which was dead, and is alive;

- Smyrna- (*Gk.4667-Σμύρνα-smoor'-nah-from 4666-myrrh*)

“Reached metropolitan proportions during the period of the Roman Empire” and located forty miles north of Ephesus. It came under Roman rule in 133 BC. Having a major seaport, it was a leading city known for its educational facilities and worship of idols. It was known as a dangerous place for Christians. Polycarp (*disciple of the Apostle John*) lived and was martyred here in 153 AD (*Wikipedia*).

*"Polycarp is best known as the aged bishop of Smyrna who was martyred for his faith. The story of his death was one of the first to be recorded and circulated among churches. He was killed February 22, 156, at*

*eighty-six years of age after he had served as an elder of the church for forty or fifty years."*

*"...because of his age, the officers tried to persuade him to say, "Lord Caesar", and to sacrifice to the gods that he might be spared. He refused to do so and when brought before the Pro-Consul his freedom was offered if he would revile Christ. To this Polycarp said, "For eighty-six years have I been His servant, and He has done me no wrong, and how can I blaspheme my King Who saved me?" After further threatening with wild beasts and fire Polycarp said, "You burn me with fire that burns for a time, and is quickly quenched, for you do not know the fire which awaits the wicked in the judgment to come and in everlasting punishment." With this he was bound and burned. Eleven from Smyrna had been martyred before Polycarp".*

The Eternal Kingdom - F. W. Mattox  
Pgs. 64, 65

The church here was reminded that Jesus shared a martyr's death but lived again. (1:17, 18)

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**Rev 2:9** I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

- I know thy works- Reason? Mat 28:20 “...I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

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- tribulation... poverty- Under pressure but not ensnared by earthly riches they were spiritually rich: Mat 16:26; Act 13:47-50; 14:1-4; Rom 2:28-29; Eph 1:18; 3:8; 1 Tim 6:7.

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- To this point it was the Jews who were persecuting the church. Christians who lived in Smyrna lived in

poverty because of this persecution, along with what came from Rome: Jas 2:5; 1 Tim 6:6-11; Rev 13:17.

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- Their suffering at this point was due to the persecution which came from their Jewish neighbors: 1 Thes 2:14-16.

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- The Jews, in rejecting Jesus as the Christ, forfeited their inheritance/privileges making them the synagogue (*Gk.4864-assembly*) owned by Satan: Jn 8:34-38/Gen 3:15.

Gal 3:7 Know then that it is those **of faith** who are the sons of Abraham. (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

Gal 6:16 And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God (*spiritual Israel/the church, see also Rom 11:26*). (ESV)

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(*See also James 2:2. Assembly there is the same word as synagogue.*)

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**Rev 2:10** Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

- As if the persecution from the Jews wasn't enough, Smyrna was forewarned concerning an even harder trial. Satan, literally those in his service, because the saints would not give homage to Caesar's image (*13:15-17*), had Christians thrown in prison (*10 days= short time of testing*). Rome, in persecuting the Jews, misidentified Christianity as just another Jewish sect.

Dan 1:12 "**Test your servants for ten days**; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

Dan 1:14 So he listened to them in this matter and **tested them for ten days**. (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

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They were to be ready for the extreme penalty (*martyrdom*) if it should come to that. This was God's test, not Satan's.

1Pe 1:7 so that the **tested genuineness of your faith**--more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire-- may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

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- The victorious would be given the garland (*Gk.4735-stephanos*) of victory (*crown*) also known as eternal life: 1 Cor 9:25; 2 Tim 4:8; Jas 1:12; 1 Pet 5:4; 1 Jn 2:25.

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**Rev 2:11** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

- The Spirit's message does not offer immunity from death, i.e. martyrdom because of vigilance, but from the second death (*i.e., spiritual separation from God for all eternity- 20:6; 21:8*).

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### Pergamum

**Rev 2:12** And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith He which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

- Pergamum- (*Gk.4010-Πέργαμος-per'-gam-os-* from *4444-fortified*)  
University of Asia Minor. "Was briefly the capital of the Roman province of Asia, before the capital was transferred to Ephesus" ... "under Roman Imperial rule [it] was home to about 200,000 inhabitants. The city was an early seat of Christianity..." Parchment came from here. It was "badly damaged by an earthquake in 262 (AD) and was sacked by the Goths shortly after". (*Wikipedia*)



- sharp sword with two edges- (1:16, 19:19-21; Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12)

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**Rev 2:13** I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast My name, and hast not denied My faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

- Pergamos would have been the center of the Roman Empire's cult worship and religious authority (13:11ff), thus most likely in the forefront of opposition to Christianity. Local persecution existed before this letter as evidenced "even in those days". Antipas' death exposed other Christians to such a fate yet they did not deny Christ or His faith (*the Gospel- Rom 1:16; Gal 2:16*).

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**Rev 2:14** But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

- While for the most part loyal, there were some efforts to compromise, combining cult prostitution into worship. Even though, like all other nations, Rome received her power to exist as a nation from God (*Dan 4:28-32*) it is not to be interpreted by the following verses that Christians are to obey laws and ordinances that go against God's will: Rom 13:1-5.
- The divinity of the Emperor was not generally taken seriously and only a token of submission to Caesar worship may have been necessary to escape martyrdom. Paul even taught that an idol is nothing...

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1Co 8:4 Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "**an idol has no real existence**," and that "there is no God but One." (*Emp. added*) (ESV)

...but was considered a stumbling block. A small step in the direction to apostasy: Mic 6:5; 2 Pet 2:15-16.

Gal 5:9 A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

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- Without actually naming the culprits, their covetousness was akin to that of Balaam's (*Numbers 22-25*), teaching compromise as permissible.

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**Rev 2:15** So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

(2:6)

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**Rev 2:16** Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

- The compromisers here were given the opportunity to repent lest they be visited by Christ (*through judgment or through His ambassador- Eph 6:20; 2 Cor 13:2-3, 10*). They would be judged by Christ's words that they did not heed.

Joh 12:48 The one who rejects Me and does not receive My words has a judge; **the word that I have spoken** will judge him on the last day. (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

2Th 2:8 And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the **breath of His mouth** (*Rev 1:16; 2:16; 19:15*) and bring to nothing by the appearance of His coming. (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:17** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

- what the Spirit sayeth- “The teaching of the Spirit they needed to heed was the doctrine demanding that they discipline the followers of error.” Arthur Ogden- Pg. 138

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- hidden manna- Hidden because not all can see (*understand*) it.

Joh 18:37 Then Pilate said to him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose, I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world--to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to (*understands*) My voice." (*ESV*)

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Manna was the bread of life to the Israelites while traveling through the wilderness. (*Exodus 16*)  
Partaking of the manna mentioned here...

Joh 6:32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from Heaven. 33 For the bread of God is He Who comes down from Heaven and gives life to the world." (*ESV*)

...is Christ Who is sustaining life permanently.

Joh 6:58 This is the bread that came down from Heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." 59 Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as He taught at Capernaum. 60 When many of His disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" (*ESV*)

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The manna was hidden to “many of His disciples” which was “due to their hardness of heart” (*Eph 4:18*). There were those of the church at Pergamum who didn’t understand this because of their own choice to accept their self-embraced ignorance. The one who conquers (*overcame*) would be able to “discern what is

the will of God” (*Rom 12:2*) and as a result be given eternal life.

- white- shows purity.

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- stone- Gk.5586-ψήφος-psēphos-*psay'-fos*

From the same as G5584; a *pebble* (as worn smooth by *handling*), that is, (by implication of use as a *counter* or *ballot*) a *verdict* (of acquittal) or *ticket* (of admission); a *vote*: -

In this case the stone would be used for admission (*either into the book of life [3:5] or into Christ's throne [3:21]*). With the new name written on it, it implies that the one possessing it has access to his inheritance.

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- new name- In Isa 6:22 we are told that the Lord would name the name Israel would be given. That name is “Christian”. Act 11:26- “And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” Here it has to do with possessing it in the “holy city New Jerusalem” (*21:1-2*).

Nobody can truly know what a Christian has been through but the victor who claims in truth to be a saint.

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### **Thyatira**

**Rev 2:18** And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, Who hath His eyes like unto a flame of fire, and His feet are like fine brass;

- Thyatira- Gk.2363-Θυάτειρα-Thuateira-*thoo-at'-i-rah*

Lydia was from here (*Acts 16:14*). It was known for its dyes and bronze metal working. “On the border between Lydia and Mysia. During the Roman era (1st c. AD), it was famous for its dying facilities and was a

center of purple cloth trade”. (*Wikipedia*) It was a garrison and gateway to important areas of Asia Minor. (*McGuiggan*)

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Christ's eyes and feet are discussed in 1:14, 15.

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**Rev 2:19** I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

- Unlike Ephesus their zeal grew, since the church was first established here, both horizontally (*their faith in God*) and vertically (*in service to their fellow man*).

1Th 1:3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:20** Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce My servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

- Jezebel was the idolatrous wife of king Ahab (*1 Kings 16:29-33*). She influenced her husband to introduce idolatry to Israel. Evidently there was a woman at Thyatira who claimed to be a prophetess (*Jesus likens her to Jezebel*) who was introducing practices like those of Balaam and the Nicolaitans. Temple prostitution (*under Roman law was “legal, public and widespread”- Wikipedia*) may have been one of them. Paul also stated that to eat things sacrificed unto idols would influence those weak in the faith, thinking they could continue their heathen practices while remaining in favor with God. He specified that the stronger Christian could eat such food since “an idol has no real existence” (*1 Cor 8:4-8*) and “everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving” (*1 Tim 4:3-5*). The church in Thyatira was to “resist the devil” (*Jas 4:7*). 1 Jn 4:1

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**Rev 2:21** And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

**Rev 2:22** Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

- As Jezebel of old did not repent, neither did those who practiced such here, even though given the opportunity (2 Pet 3:9). Her influence was so loathsome it was akin to that of a whore with many lovers in her bed. Those who participated with her in her idolatrous acts would suffer her fate unless they would deny her and flee from her type of influence: 1 Cor 5:4-7.

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**Rev 2:23** And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am He which searcheth the reins and hearts; and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

- Repentance and nothing short would save the influenced adherents (*her children- Jn 8:44*) of the practice. Anything less than full repentance would incur separation from God (2:6; 20:6; 22:11). Judgment on this matter would benefit the whole church.

Act 5:11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things.

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- reins- Gk.3510-νεφρός-nephros-*nef-ros'*

Of uncertain affinity; a *kidney* (plural), that is, (figuratively) the **inmost mind**: - reins. (*Emp. added*)

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- hearts- Gk.2588-καρδια-kardia-*kar-dee'-ah*

Prolonged from a primary καρ (Latin *cor*, “heart”); the *heart*, that is, (figuratively) the **thoughts** or **feelings** (*mind*); also (by analogy) the *middle*: - (+ broken-) heart (-ed). (*Emp. added*)

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- searches- Gk.2045-ἐρευνᾶω-ereunaō-er-yoo-nah'-o

Apparently from G2046 (through the idea of **inquiry**); to *seek*, that is, (figuratively) to **investigate**: - search. (*Emp. added*)

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Heb 4:13 And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to Whom we must give account. (*ESV*)

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Rom 14:12 So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (*ESV*)

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Mat 6:3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father Who **sees in secret** will reward you. (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay each person **according to what he has done**. (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:24** But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

- Those who did not practice this false teaching did not know the extent of Satan's wickedness. (*We do not need to experience sin to know its evil.*) "Jezebel" evidently taught that Christians should experience all aspects of pagan society either to know what evil was in it or to bring Christian teaching to bear on it. Either way, it was playing with fire. The church's only

responsibility (*burden*) at this time was to "remedy" Jezebel.

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**Rev 2:25** But that which ye have *already* hold fast till I come.

- Christ was soon to visit judgment on the Jews (*and ultimately on Rome*) and those who took part in her fornication (18:4). The steadfastness of the church was necessary in light of the coming tribulation: 1 Pet 4:16-17.

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**Rev 2:26** And he that *overcometh*, and keepeth My works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

- overcometh (*the martyred faithful*), and keepeth My works (*this is the Great Commission- Mat 28:19-20*) unto the end. Even if it meant death, the saints would have been given **authority**...

Gk.1849-ἐξουσία-exousia-ex-oo-see'-ah

From G1832 (in the sense of *ability*); *privilege*, that is, (subjectively) *force, capacity, competency, freedom*, or (objectively) *mastery* (concretely *magistrate, superhuman, potentate, token of control*), delegated *influence*: - authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength.

...over the un-Godly. How?

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**Rev 2:27** And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of My Father.

1Co 6:2 Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world? and if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? 3 Know ye not that we shall judge angels? how much more things that pertain to this life?



Psa 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You. (*Christ's resurrection and ascension*) 8 Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron (*unbending rule*) and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." (*ESV*)

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- Jesus here gives to the faithful the same authority His Father gave to Him.

Rev 12:5 She gave birth to a male Child, One Who is to **rule all the nations with a rod of iron**,... (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

Rev 19:15 From His mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and He will **rule them with a rod of iron**... (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

Rev 20:6 ... but they (*faithful Christians*) will be priests of God and of Christ, and they **will reign with Him** for a thousand years. (*Emp. added*) (*See notes on the 1000-year reign in chapter 20 along with Mat 5:5; 28:19-20*) (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:28** And I will give him the morning Star.

- Faithfulness unto victory would gain the overcomer a deeper more intimate relationship with the Savior (*Php 1:23*). In Rev. 22:16 Jesus calls Himself "the bright and morning Star".

2Pe 1:19 And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the **morning Star** rises in your hearts, (*Emp. added*) (*ESV*)

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**Rev 2:29** He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

- The Spirit's message had been in their possession via their circulating and sharing the inspired New

Testament epistles (*Col 4:16*). Christ was here only reminding them of what they already knew.

Joh 18:37 ... Everyone that is of the truth heareth (*understands*) My voice.

Worksheet  
**Revelation: Chapter 2**

1. What five things did the church at Ephesus have right? (*vs. 2, 3*)
2. What was the one thing Christ had against them and how could they resolve it? (*vs. 4, 5*)
3. What would have been their punishment if they didn't? (*v. 5*)
4. Who were the "Nicolaitans"? (*v. 6*)
5. What is "the tree of life" and where is it located? (*v. 7*)
6. Explain Smyrna's "poverty" and why Jesus still called them "rich". (*v. 9*)
7. Who were the saints at Smyrna about to be tested by? For how long? Explain. (*v. 10*)
8. What is "the second death"? (*v. 11*)
9. Why did Jesus refer to where Pergamum was as "Satan's throne"? (*v. 13*)
10. Explain the "few things" against those of Pergamum who held "the teachings of Balaam". (*v. 14*)
11. Explain "the hidden manna", "white stone" and "new name" the victors would receive. (*v. 17*)
12. Who did the church at Thyatira "tolerate" that Jesus had something against them? (*v. 20*)
13. What was she doing that angered Jesus and what would the remedy be? (*v. 20*)
14. Explain "the deep things of Satan". (*v. 24*)
15. What implement would Jesus give to "rule" over whom? (*v. 27*)