

Bereans Bible Institute

Module XI – Revelation

Lesson 11 – Rev. 3:1-6

Intro:

1. Ephesus – Righteous, sound doctrine, but waning love
2. Smyrna – Faithful, yet severely persecuted
3. Pergamos – Tolerate idolatry
4. Thyatira – Charismatic flirting with demons and idolatry

I. Sardis – the ‘Seeker Friendly’ church, no serious expectations:

A. Vs. 1

1. Jesus Christ possesses the “*seven Breaths*” Rev. 1:4; Rev. 4:5; Rev. 5:6, & the 7 stars Rev. 1:20.
2. A reputation of “alive” but “dead” – a façade
 - a. fakers – shallow excitement, entertainment vs. depth of commitment
 - b. living for pleasure – 1 Tim. 5:6; Rom. 8:10-15; James 4:1-5

B. Vs. 2

1. Asleep! Matt. 26:36-41
2. Reinforcement needed
3. Works incomplete – baptized but little progress

C. Vs. 3

1. Remember the original message and apostolic teaching (SoM)
 - a. Compare Ephesus: “*Remember then from where you have fallen and repent, and do the original deeds.*” (Rev. 2:5)
2. Threat: Surprised by the thief, Matt. 24:43-44; Luke 12:45-46; 1 Thess. 5:2,4; 2 Pet. 3:10; Rev. 16:15

D. Vss. 4-5

1. Only a FEW from Sardis will make it
2. Unsoiled garments only – Matt. 22:2-14; Rev. 7:9-15; Rev. 19:6-9
3. Soiled garments? Name erased from the Book of Life
4. Acknowledged before God & angels. Matt. 10:32-33; Lk. 12:8-9