

SOME QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT:

What makes a person “spiritually dead?”

What do you think means to follow Jesus?

What does Jesus think it means to follow Him?

How would you explain to someone what it means to live and walk by God’s Spirit?

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

5

Study Guide



FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN

SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION TODAY

Sardis: Church of the Living Dead

“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, ‘These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: ‘I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you. You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”

FROM ANCIENT TO MODERN: Seven Churches of Revelation Today
Study Guide Written and Designed by Pastor Benjamin Orian
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All Bible references, unless otherwise noted, are from the New King James Version of the Bible.
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Revelation 3:1-6 (NKJV)

SARDIS

Population: _____

The name “Sardis” means _____.

It was the _____ capital of the world.

Despite it’s wealth in the first two centuries of the Christian Era, it’s political brilliance was long past. It was a romanticized city and tourist spot—but not much more.

THE MESSAGE TO SARDIS

CONDEMNATION:

NOTE: In this church letter, Jesus doesn’t start with the commendation as He has the others, He begins right off with the condemnation. It’s because He knows what’s really going on and how to reach people. So He says, “You may act alive, but you’re really not.” So the question must be asked:

Is your church dead or alive?

Is STAF dead or alive?

The real question is this: Is your church running with a vision and mission and a heart for lost people?

Sardis was a model of political correctness. The Jewish leaders and the Romans didn’t bother the church because the church didn’t bother them!

COUNSEL:

There are four words of counsel given to Sardis:

COMMENDATION:

A _____ are _____.

NOTE: God has had a few that remained faithful to Him in every era of history. In the time of Babel—it was Abraham. In the time of Jezebel, it was Elijah and 7000 men and women who remained faithful. In the Dark Ages, men like Huss, Luther, and Calvin. And today, there is a remnant of people who remain faithful to Jesus.

CHALLENGE:

Jesus says He will come as a _____.

COMPENSATION:

The compensation comes in three parts:

