

# Revelation

*The Consummation of God's Plan  
through Jesus Christ*

**Stonebriar Community Church**

**Marathon Fellowship**

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Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the  
glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Who was, and is, and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see;  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and  
sky, and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy; merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

# REVELATION

## *The Consummation of God's Plan through Jesus Christ*

### I. THE MESSAGE TO THE PROPHET:

- *“Write What You Have Seen” (Chap. 1)*

### II. THE MESSAGE FOR THE PEOPLE:

- *“What Is Now”—Present (Chaps. 2–3)*

### III. THE MESSAGE OF PROPHECY:

- *“What Will Take Place Later”—Future  
(Chaps. 4–22)*

# I. The Message to the Prophet: *"Write what you have seen" (Chap. 1)*

- ***The Prologue (1:1-8)***

1. **The superscription (vv. 1-3)**

- *The uniqueness & completeness of the revelation*

2. **The salutation (v. 4)**

- *The Apostle John to the 7 Churches*

3. **The subject (vv. 5-6)**

- *Jesus Christ*

4. **The synopsis (vv. 7-8)**

- *He is coming!*

# I. The Message to the Prophet (cont.)

- *The Preparation of the Prophet (1:9-20)*

1. The setting for the commission (vv. 9-11)

- *Persecution*

2. The source of the commission (vv. 12-16)

- *The risen & glorified Christ*

3. The statement of the commission (vv. 17-20)

- *Jesus: The eternal, living, risen Christ*
- *The outline for the book (present & future)*
- *The 7 angels & 7 golden lampstands defined*

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# *The Seven Churches of Revelation*





# *The 7 Churches of Revelation*

- Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia & Laodicea
- They are historic and representative.
  1. The number “seven” is symbolic & representative for John.
  2. The promise to each of the churches at the close of each letter is the exhortation to hear what the Spirit says to “the churches.”
  3. These 7 churches may represent the 7 successive periods of church history.

# *The 7 Letters to the 7 Churches in Revelation 2–3*

- The risen & glorified Christ is the Lord of the Churches and the One who evaluates them.
- The letters follow a common literary format:
  1. A description of the recipient & the Author (Christ)
  2. A commendation of works (except Sardis & Laodicea)
  3. A condemnation or rebuke (except Smyrna & Philadelphia)
  4. An exhortation to specific action
  5. A promise

# *The Church in Ephesus (2:1-7)*

- Christ: Protects & Present in the Church
- Commendation: Zeal for the Truth
- Condemnation: Loveless Orthodoxy
- Exhortation: Repent, Remember, Repeat
- Promise: Eternal Life

# *The Church in Smyrna (2:8-11) cont.*

## 1. Christ (v. 8)

- Eternal & Risen

## 2. Commendation (v. 9)

- Their Spiritual Riches

## 3. Exhortation (v. 10a)

- Be Faithful (“Do not be afraid”)

## 4. Promise (vv. 10b-11)

- The crown of life (Eternal Life)

# *The 7 Churches of Revelation 2–3*

## Church

## Characteristic

- |                 |                                       |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Ephesus      | Loveless Orthodoxy                    |
| 2. Smyrna       | Persecuted yet Faithful               |
| 3. Pergamum     | Faithful yet Compromising Morally     |
| 4. Thyatira     | Faithful yet Compromising Doctrinally |
| 5. Sardis       | Spiritually Complacent                |
| 6. Philadelphia | Faithful                              |
| 7. Laodicea     | Spiritually Lukewarm                  |

# *The Church in Pergamum (2:12-17)*

- The city of Pergamum:

- Approximately 45-55 mi. north of Smyrna
- It had one of the finest libraries of antiquity
- It had the great altar of Zeus
- It was the provincial temple of imperial cult worshipping Augustus Caesar

- The church in Pergamum:

- The city was known for Christian martyrdom

# *The Church in Pergamum (2:12-17) cont.*

## **1. Christ (v. 12)**

- Judging with His Word (cf. Heb. 4:12)

## **2. Commendation (v. 13)**

- Their faithfulness in the “world” (Satan’s throne)

## **3. Condemnation (vv. 14-15)**

- Their religious/moral compromise (minority)

## **4. Exhortation (v. 16)**

- Repentance for the erring believers

## **5. Promise (v. 17)**

- The hidden manna

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