

# Revelation

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

**Stonebriar Community Church**

**Marathon Fellowship**

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# Man of Sorrows

P.P. Bliss

- “Man of sorrows,” what a name  
For the Son of God who came  
Ruined sinners to reclaim  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# Man of Sorrows

P.P. Bliss

- Bearing shame and scoffing rude.  
In my place condemned He stood  
Sealed my pardon with His blood  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# Man of Sorrows

P.P. Bliss

- Guilty, vile, and helpless we  
Spotless Lamb of God was He  
Full atonement, can it be?  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# Man of Sorrows

P.P. Bliss

- Lifted up was He to die  
“It is finished” was His cry  
Now in heaven exalted high  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# Man of Sorrows

P.P. Bliss

- When He comes, our glorious king  
All his ransomed home to bring  
Then anew this song we'll sing  
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

# 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)*

# 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 Churches of Revelation (cont.)*

- **A Possible Symbolism of the 7 Churches of Revelation Representing the 7 Periods of Church History**
  1. **Ephesus: The apostolic church (1<sup>st</sup> cent.)**
  2. **Smyrna: The persecuted church (2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> cent.)**
  3. **Pergamum: The imperial church (4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> cent.)**
  4. **Thyatira: The church of the Middle Ages (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> cent.)**
  5. **Sardis: The reformed church (13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> cent.)**
  6. **Philadelphia: The missionary church (18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> cent.)**
  7. **Laodicea: The apostate church (20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> cent.)**

# *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 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 Laodicea (3:14-22)*

- **The City of Laodicea:**

- Appx. 40-45 mi. SE of Philadelphia, 90 mi. East of Ephesus
- It was a wealthy city known as the producer of world-famous black wool.
- It was also a medical center known for an ointment for treating ears and a powder for the eyes.
- It was near a hot mineral springs whose water could be drunk only if very hot; when lukewarm, it became nauseating.

- **The Church in Laodicea:**

- The church was known for its spiritual lukewarmness.

# *The Church in Laodicea (3:14-22)*

## **1. Christ (v. 14)**

- The faithful & true Witness, Ruler of God's creation

## **2. Condemnation (vv. 15-17)**

- Spiritual lukewarmness, apathy

## **3. Exhortation (vv. 18-19)**

- Return and Repent

## **4. Promise (vv. 20-22)**

- Restoration to fellowship with Christ
- Privilege of reigning with Christ in heaven

# The Seven Churches of Revelation

Lycia

Galatia

Asia Minor

Greece

Corinth

Patmos

Pergamum

Thyatira

Sardis

Smyrna

Ephesus

Philadelphia

Laodicea

Cyprus

Crete

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

Antioch

Byblos

Sidon

Tyre

Nazareth

Bethlehem

Alexandria



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