

Chapters 1 -3

Foundational Scripture: Rev 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

1. Empowerment

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Mat 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Rev 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

2. Ambassadorship

2Co 5:20 Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

Rev 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John:

Rev 1:11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Rev 1:12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks;

Rev 1:13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

Rev 1:17 **And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead.** And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Rev 1:18 **I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore,** Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Rev 1:19 Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

Rev 1:20 The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. **The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.**

Note: angel/pastor are like mirror images in the natural/supernatural; strong pastor/strong angel because the angel can act **only** within the limits of the authority given by the pastor.

3. Glorious Church

a) Characteristics

Eph 5:25 Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

Rom 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.

Col 1:26 Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

Col 1:27 To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, **the hope of glory:**

Col 1:28 Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

Col 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Col 2:10 And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

b) Seven Churches General

1) They are addressed geographically. See map at end.

They do not represent the history of the church (Body of Christ).

They do not represent the development of a global church.

They represent major challenges in the process of each church, as the Body of Christ, maturing into the Glorious Church.

2) Each is evaluated by works, so the setting is after the Age of Grace.

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.

Rev 2:23and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

The expression, "I know thy works." is used seven times, once for each church.

- 3) For each, there is an evaluation and a reward for those who overcome.
- 4) All rewards are available to all overcomers, just as the blessings of grace are available to all believers but they are obtained by faith.

c) Seven Churches Evaluations

The expressions, "He that overcometh" or "To him that overcometh", are used a total of seven times, once for each church.

The word, "Repent", is used six times; four times to churches and twice to Jezebel and her followers.

- **Overcoming as Martyrs**

1. Rev 2:10 Smyrna: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life

- **Overcoming as part of the Glorious Church** ((in descending order of importance).

2. Rev 3:10 **Philadelphia**: v8 thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Rev 3:11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.
3. Rev 2:22 **Thyatira**: You allow, Jezebel, to teach (*apparently, in the city*) heresy and fornication and to eat things sacrificed to idols.(v20). Rev 2:24 but I will put upon you none other burden.
Rev 2:25 But that which ye have already, hold fast till I come.
4. Rev 2:16 **Pergamos**: **Repent** because there are some (*in the church*) who are into heresy, following the teachings of Balam, Nicolatians & are into fornication & eating things sacrificed to idols.
 - a. Rev 3:3 **Sardis** ...**Repent** v2 for I have not found thy works perfect before God.
v1 thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. v4 Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.
5. Rev 2:5 **Ephesus**: **Repent** and do the first works v4 I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.
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.

6. .Rev 3:19 **Laodecia: Repent** and be zealous. v15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. v16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

d) Seven Churches Rewards

Seven times, once for each church, the Lord uses the following admonition:

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

- **Rewards to Martyrs**

- 1. Smyrna

- 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.

- **Rewards to Overcomers** (in descending order of importance).

- 2. Philadelphia

- Rev 3:12 Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him **my new name**.

- 3. Laodicea

- Rev 3:21 To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

- 4. Pergamos

- 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.

- 5. Thyatira

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

- 6. Ephesus

- 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.

- 7. Sardis

- Rev 3:5 He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.



Map of western [Anatolia](#) (Western Turkey) showing the island [Patmos](#) and the locations of the cities housing the seven churches

The Book of Revelation Pt 1

CHART EVALUATIONS versus REWARDS

I know thy works:

He that overcometh or To him that overcometh:

(These statements were made 7 times, once to each church.)

CHURCHES	EVALUATIONS	REWARDS
1. Smyrna	Martyrs Be Faithful unto Death	Receive a Crown of Life (1) Avoid 2 nd Death
2. Philadelphia	Overcoming Glorious Church Hold fast to what you have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a little strength • Have kept the WOG • Have not denied Jesus 	Pillar in the Temple of My God (2) Receive a New Name of God and New Jerusalem
3. Thyatira	Heresy Outside the Church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jezebel 	Power over the Nations (5)
4. Pergamos	(Repent) Heresy Inside the Church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baalam • Nicolaitans • Fornication • Eating food offered to idols 	Eat of Hidden Manna (4) Stone with New Name Written
5. Sardis	(Repent) Dead Church A few pure and will walk in white	Clothed in White Raiment (7) Will not blot Name out of the Book of Life
6. Ephesus	(Repent) Left 1 st Love	Eat of the Tree of Life (6)
7. Laodicea	(Repent) Lukewarm: neither Hot nor Cold	Sit with Me in My Throne (3)