



Jesus challenges the church in Sardis to become a congregation with true spiritual life. He promises the congregation in Philadelphia that the open door to heaven is assured. Believers in Laodicea are warned to reject their self-sufficiency.

Outline

- **Chapter Preview** *Introduction*
- **Sardis: Dead** *Revelation 3:1-6*
- **Philadelphia: Faithful** *Revelation 3:7-13*
- **Laodicea: Lukewarm** *Revelation 3:14-22*

Truths & Principles

- ✓ The risen Christ holds the Spirit of God and the servants of God in His hands.
- ✓ As holder of the key of David, Christ guarantees the open door of heaven to His children.
- ✓ Congregations displease Christ when they are filled with “nominal” good works or with self-sufficient works.
- ✓ The risen Christ earnestly desires full fellowship with each of His congregations.
- ✓ Those who claim to be God’s people must be careful not to become a “synagogue of Satan”.

Preview

The letters to the seven churches conclude in this chapter. Each letter includes a personal assessment of the local church by Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church. In the Last letter, the Laodiceans are pictured as closing Him out of their church.

Applications

- ✓ Keep Christ’s word.
- ✓ Stay true to His name.
- ✓ Endure persecution patiently.
- ✓ Come back into fellowship with Christ if your faith is nominal or self-sufficient.





Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. Jesus said the church in Sardis is (3:1)? _____
2. Who would have his name confessed before the Father (3:5)? ____
3. Philadelphia was commended for not denying His what (3:8)? ____
4. Philadelphia is promised to be kept from the hour of (3:10)? ____
5. The church is told to hold fast so no one could take their (3:11)?
6. Because the Laodiceans were lukewarm, Christ would (3:16)? ____
7. Christ's assessment of the Laodiceans: they were (3:17)? _____
8. Who is granted to sit with Christ on His throne (3:21)? _____

Study Questions

1. Each of the seven letters is addressed to the church as an assembly, but in each letter the invitation to change is very personal.
 - ❖ How do the sins of others affect your life, fellowship, and reputation?
 - ❖ How do your sins affect the lives, fellowship and reputation of others?
 - ❖ How do your actions affect the failure or success of your church or fellowship group?
2. Define the seven ways Christ identifies Himself to the churches.
 - ❖ How does each definition match the need of that church?
 - ❖ What part of His character would your church need to experience the most?
 - ❖ What part of His character do you need to experience the most?
3. This letter was to be read when the church was gathered together.
 - ❖ If you had been in one of these churches, what would you want to say at the next congregational meeting?
 - ❖ Would you be advocating the change Christ prescribed?
 - ❖ Would you be resisting the change Christ prescribed?
4. What dangers are there for people who spend time cultivating their image instead of their character? Where do you spend your time?