



GOSPEL MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

LightHouse Ranch

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EARNESTLY CONTEND FOR THE FAITH WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED UNTO THE SAINTS, JUDE 3

REVELATION 2a. THE TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH 06-14-20 LightHouse Ranch Church James Porteous

BEGINNING TEXTS (must be included in the gospel message) [Gen 17:1](#); [Act 1:8](#)
2Ti 3:12 Yea, and all that will **live godly in Christ Jesus** shall suffer persecution.
2Ti 3:13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

DESCRIPTION OF FALSE TEACHERS

1Ti 6:3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, *even* the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to **the doctrine which is according to godliness**;
1Ti 6:4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,

Church Letters typify Characteristics of Churches in every Age

Letter to:	Characteristics	Age	Approx. Dates
Ephesus Re 21-7	Many righteous works but lost their first love, sternly warned, backslidden	APOSTOLIC True apostles devoted themselves to prayer and ministry of the Word, manifested God's presence, evangelized, and planted churches (Act 6:1-7)	Pentecost - AD30
Smyrna Re 2:8-11	Severe persecution, enemy revealed, false brethren. Notwithstanding, the true church was strong and continued to grow	MARTYRS Stephen stoned, James the Great beheaded, Philip crucified, Matthew halberd, James the Less clubbed, Matthias beheaded, Andrew crucified, Mark dragged, Peter crucified, Paul beheaded, Jude crucified, Bartholomew crucified, Thomas speared, Luke hung, Simon Zelotes crucified, John boiling oil but miraculously escaped, Barnabas martyred. Many saints martyred for refusing to worship the emperor	10 Emperors/waves of severe persecution Nero - AD70 Domitian - AD81 Trajan - AD108 Marcus Aurelius - AD162 Severus - AD192 Maximus - AD235 Decius - AD249 Valerian - AD257 Aurelian - AD274 Diocletian - 10 years AD303-313

Letters to the Churches with Admonishments

Church Condition	Description and Characteristics	Admonishments	Solution
Ephesus Backslidden Rev 2:1-7	Excellent in works, discerning false teachers, and in holding to sound doctrine but they had left their first love, religious but void of God's 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.	(Eph 3:16-19), (Pro 8:17), (Joh 13:1), (Joh 13:34-35)

<p>Smyrna Persecuted Rev 2:8-11</p>	<p>Materially poor but rich in God, enduring many fiery trials, humbly serving, and powerful in the Holy Spirit even amongst false brethren.</p>	<p>(Rev 2:10) Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.</p>	<p>(1Pe 1:3-9), (Act 14:21-22), (Act 9:15-16), (Act 5:40-42) (Rom 8:17-25), (Php 1:28-30), (1Th 3:2-5), (1Pe 4:1-19)`)</p>
<p>Pergamos Spiritual fornication Rev 2:12-17</p>	<p>Freedom gospel – anything goes, lured by the world, hired preachers for gain, disobedient, immoral, separatist teaching.</p>	<p>(Rev 2:16) Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. (2Pe 2:1-3)</p>	<p>(Heb 12:14), (Mat 5:20), (Mat 7:21), (1Co 6:9-10), (2Pe 2:15), (Jud 1:11)</p>
<p>Thyratira Careless Rev 2:18-29</p>	<p>False prophets and teachers, seducing messages, tolerating immorality and disobedience... ...but also some who do not subscribe to the church's evil practices</p>	<p>(Rev 2:22-23) Great tribulation to those who do not repent... (Rev 2:24-25) To the faithful... hold fast till I come</p>	<p>(2Ti 3:5), (Rom 6:16), (Jer 5:21-23), (Eze 13:3), (Mat 7:26-27), (Mat 25:8-9), (Rom 1:21), (Gal 3:1)</p>
<p>Sardis Dead Rev 3:1-6</p>	<p>Spiritually dead, without the Holy Spirit, worldwide religious appeal, empty ceremonies, no deliverances, take liberties with the Word of God, pagan practices, idol worship</p>	<p>(Rev 3:3) Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.</p>	<p>(Act 11:23), (Mat 3:2), (Mar 6:12), (Luk 13:2-5), (Luk 17:3-4), (Act 3:19), (Act 26:20)</p>
<p>Philadelphia Revived Rev 3:7-13</p>	<p>(Rev 3:8) I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.</p>	<p>(Rev 3:11) Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.</p>	<p>(Rev 3:10), (1Th 5:21), (2Ti 1:13), (Heb 3:6), (Heb 4:14), (Heb 10:23-27)</p>
<p>Laodicea Lukewarm Rev 3:14-22</p>	<p>(Rev_3:15-16), (Rev 3:17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:</p>	<p>(Rev 3:18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. (Rev 3:19) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.</p>	<p>(Psa 19:7-9), (Psa 19:10-11), (Act 4:31), (Act 19:16-20), (1Th 2:13), (1Pe 1:22-23)</p>