

# Philippians Series

Lesson #016

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# Philippians

## Overcomer Rewards – Part 2

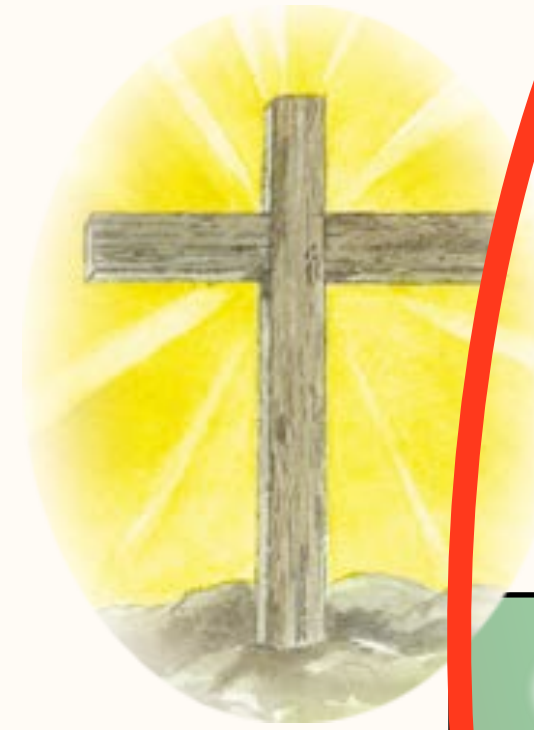
**Philippians 1:6; Revelation 2:17; 26–29; 3:5; 12; 21**



**What the Bible Teaches  
About**

**the “Day of Christ”**





**RAPTURE  
OF THE CHURCH**



**Church  
Age**

**Tribulation**

**Millennial  
Kingdom**

**Eternal  
State**

**BEMA  
Judgment  
Seat of  
Christ**

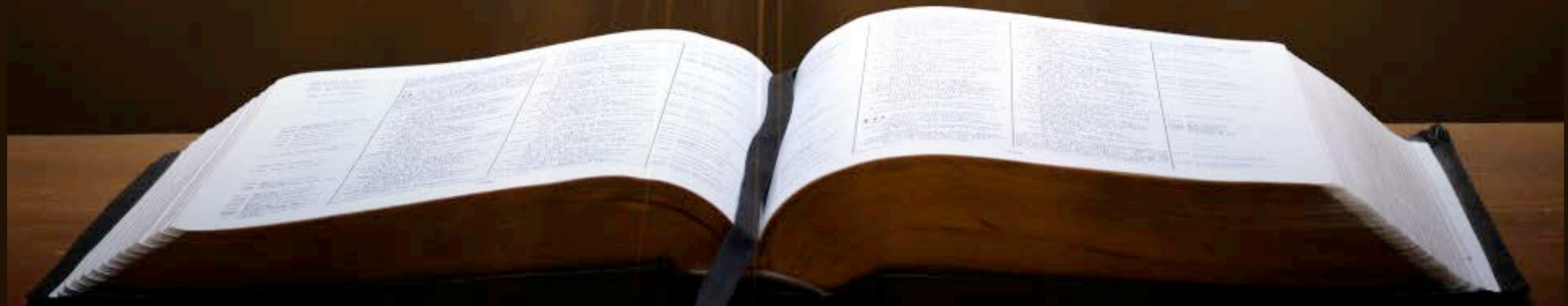
**Second Resurrection  
(unsaved)**

**GREAT  
WHITE  
THRONE**

**Unsaved Dead**

# **What the Bible Teaches About**

**the “Overcomer”  
in Revelation**





Black Sea

Ister River

THRACIA

BITHYNIA and PONTUS

ASIA

Pergamum  
Thyatira  
Sardis  
Philadelphia  
Smyrna  
Ephesus  
Laodicea

GALATIA

CAPPADOCCIA

ARMENIA

MESOPOTAMIA

SYRIA

Euphrates

LYCIA and PAMPHAGIA

CILICIA

CRETE

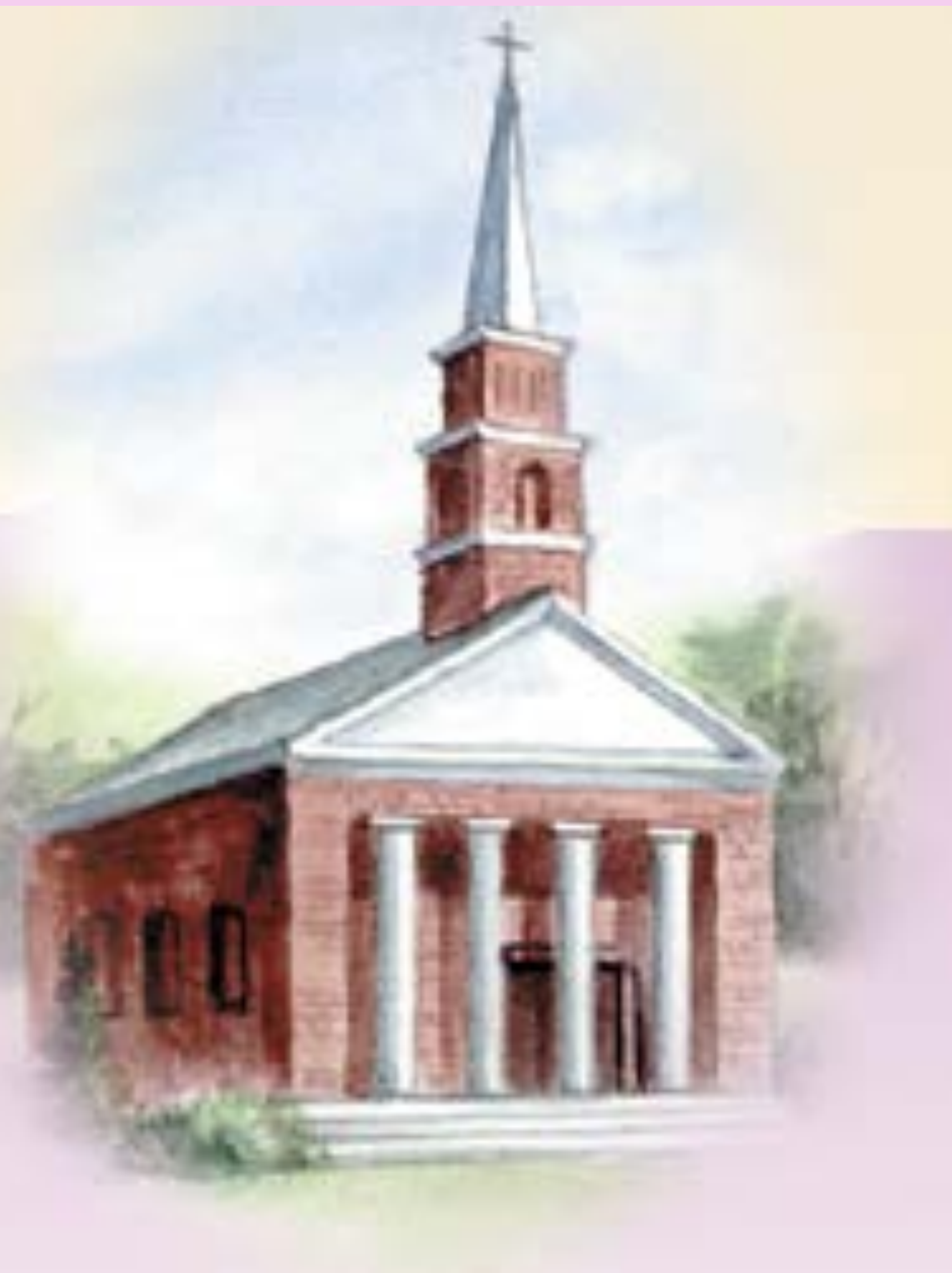
CYPRUS

Aegean Sea

ACHINA

MACEDONIA

MOESIA



# Revelation 2–3

- 1. Commission: an address opens each letter***
- 2. Character: a citation, to specific attributes of Christ***
- 3. Commendation: a praise for spiritual advance***
- 4. Condemnation: a warning about a spiritual flaw in the congregation***
- 5. Correction: a prescription to recovery***
- 6. Call: a command to listen and apply***
- 7. Challenge: a personal promise of reward***

**Revelation 2:7, “ ‘He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the overcomer I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.’ ”**

**νικάω *nikaō* pres act articular part masc sing dat**

**“victors, winners, conquerors, overcomers.”**

**Cognate to the noun, *nikh*, *nike*, “victory, success.”**

***Nikao* “to overpower, to gain victory, to win.”**



# 1. Used in Genesis to describe a tree in the Garden of Eden.

**Gen. 2:9, “And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”**

**Gen. 3:22, “Then the LORD God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever’ ”—**

**Gen. 3:24, “So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.”**

## **2. It is used in several verses in Proverbs:**

**Prov. 3:18, “She is a tree of life to those who take hold of her, and happy are all who retain her.”**

**Prov. 11:30, “The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise.”**

**Prov. 13:12, “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when the desire comes, it is a tree of life.”**

**Prov. 15:4, “A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.”**

**3. Three uses in Revelation are instructive. We will begin with the last first.**

**Rev. 22:2, “In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”**

**Another contrast between works and a free gift is found in the last chapter of Revelation.**

**Rev. 22:14, “Blessed are those who do His commandments [MajT, TR] “wash their robes [CrT],” that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.”**

**Rev. 22:17, “And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.”**

**Rev. 22:12, “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.”**

**Salvation is free, rewards are earned.**

**Rev. 21:6, “And He said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.’ ”**

**Col. 3:24, “knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.”**

**Rev. 21:7, “He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.”**

## 4. Two types of heirs.

Romans 8:17, “and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”



Time to eat children!



Commas save lives.

**Romans 8:17, “and if children, then heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.”**

**Two types of heirs:**

**1. Heirs of God: all believers**

**2. Joint heirs with Christ: for those who grow spiritually**

**Eternal Life is free, it is a gift with no conditions.**

**Rev. 21:6, “And He said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.’”**

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**Revelation 2:7, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the overcomer I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”**

**Rev. 22:12, “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.” ~NKJV, but NASB agrees**

**Rev. 22:14, “Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.”**

# Paradise

**Luke 23:43, “And Jesus said to him, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.’ ”**

**2 Cor. 12:4, “how he was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.”**

**Rev. 2:7, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”**

# To the Church of Smyrna





**Revelation 2:8,**  
**“And to the angel**  
**of the church in**  
**Smyrna write,**  
**‘These things says**  
**the First and the**  
**Last, who was**  
**dead, and came to**  
**life:’ ”**



# COMMENDATION

- Adversity
- Persecution
- Martyrdom

Smyrna agora first level arches

# INCENTIVE

- Be faithful unto death
- Crown of life
- No loss of rewards

Smyrna agora first level arches

**Revelation 2:10, “Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. **Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**”**

## **Crowns (*stephanos*)**

- 1. The crown of righteousness, 2 Tim. 4:6–8**
- 2. The crown of life, here and in James 1:12**
- 3. The crown of glory, 1 Peter 5:4**
- 4. The victor's crown, 1 Cor. 9:24–27**

**Some add a fifth crown, the crown of joy,  
from 1 Thess. 2:19**



## Crowns (*stephanos*)

**1 Thessalonians 2:19, “For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?”**



**Revelation 2:10, “Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”**

**γίνομαι *gínomai*:**

**Pres Pass Imp, 2s, deponent;  
ongoing character.**

**“to come into a certain state  
or possess certain  
characteristics, to be, prove  
to be, turn out to be.”**

**πιστός *pistós*;**

**“dependable, consistent,  
remaining loyal” the  
consistent growth in the  
believer’s life.**

**James 1:12, “Blessed *is* the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved [*dokimos*], he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”**

**testing, “evaluation” *dokomion*, James 1:3**

**test, “evaluation” *dokimos*, James 1:12**

**test (v), “evaluate” *dokimazo*, 1 Cor. 3:13**

**Revelation 2:11 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”**



**Rev. 20:14, “Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.”**

**Rev. 20:6, “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”**

**Rev. 20:6, “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”**

**μέρος *méros*; technical term for a share or portion of an inheritance**

**Luke 15:12, “The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me of the estate that falls to me.’ So he divided his wealth between them.”**

**Rev. 21:6, “And He said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.**

**Rev. 21:7, “ ‘He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.**

**Rev. 21:8, “ ‘But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part (μέρος *méros*) in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.’ ”**

**John 13:8, “Peter said to Him, ‘You shall never wash my feet!’ Jesus answered him, ‘If I do not wash you, you have no part (μέρος *méros*) with Me.’ ”**

# To the Angel of the Church of Pergamos





**Revelation 2:12**,  
“And to the angel  
of the church in  
Pergamum write,  
‘These things says  
He who has the  
sharp two-edged  
sword:’ ”

**Rev. 2:12, “And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, ‘These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:**

**Rev. 2:13, “ ‘I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.”**



# COMMENDATIONS

- Held fast in a hostile environment
- Did not deny Christ

Pergamum river valley

**Rev. 2:14, “But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality.”**

**Rev. 2:15, “Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.”**

# CONDEMNATIONS



- **Compromised with Paganism:  
Balaam, Nicolaitans**

Pergamum Temple of Dionysus

**Rev. 2:16, “Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.”**

**Rev. 2:17, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”**

**1 John 5:4, “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world — our faith.”**

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**Rev. 2:13, “I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.”**

**1 John 5:5, “And who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”**

**Rev. 2:16, “Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.”**

**Rev. 2:17, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”**

# Manna

**John 6:48, “I am the bread of life.**

**John 6:49, “Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead.**

**John 6:50, “This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die.**

**John 6:51, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”**



**Rev. 2:16, “Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.**

**Rev. 2:17, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.”**

# To the Angel of the Church of Thyatira



Thyatira road and architectural fragments



**Revelation 2:18,**  
**“And to the angel of**  
**the church in**  
**Thyatira write,**  
**‘These things says**  
**the Son of God, who**  
**has eyes like a**  
**flame of fire, and**  
**His feet like fine**  
**brass:’ ”**

# COMMENDATIONS

- Love
- Service
- Faith-rest drill
- Patience
- Increasing works

Thyatira road and architectural fragments

**Revelation 2:19, “I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as for your works, the last are more than the first.*”**

# CONDEMNATIONS

- **Compromise with pressure to conform to Paganism**

Thyatira road and architectural fragments

**Revelation 2:26, “And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations –**

**Revelation 2:27, “ ‘and He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’ — as I also have received from My Father;”**

# **Incentives:**

- **Hold fast**
- **Power over the nations**
- **Morning Star**



**Numbers 24:17: “A Star shall come from Jacob and a Scepter shall rise from Israel.”**

**Rev. 22:16, “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star.”**

# To the Angel of the Church of Sardis



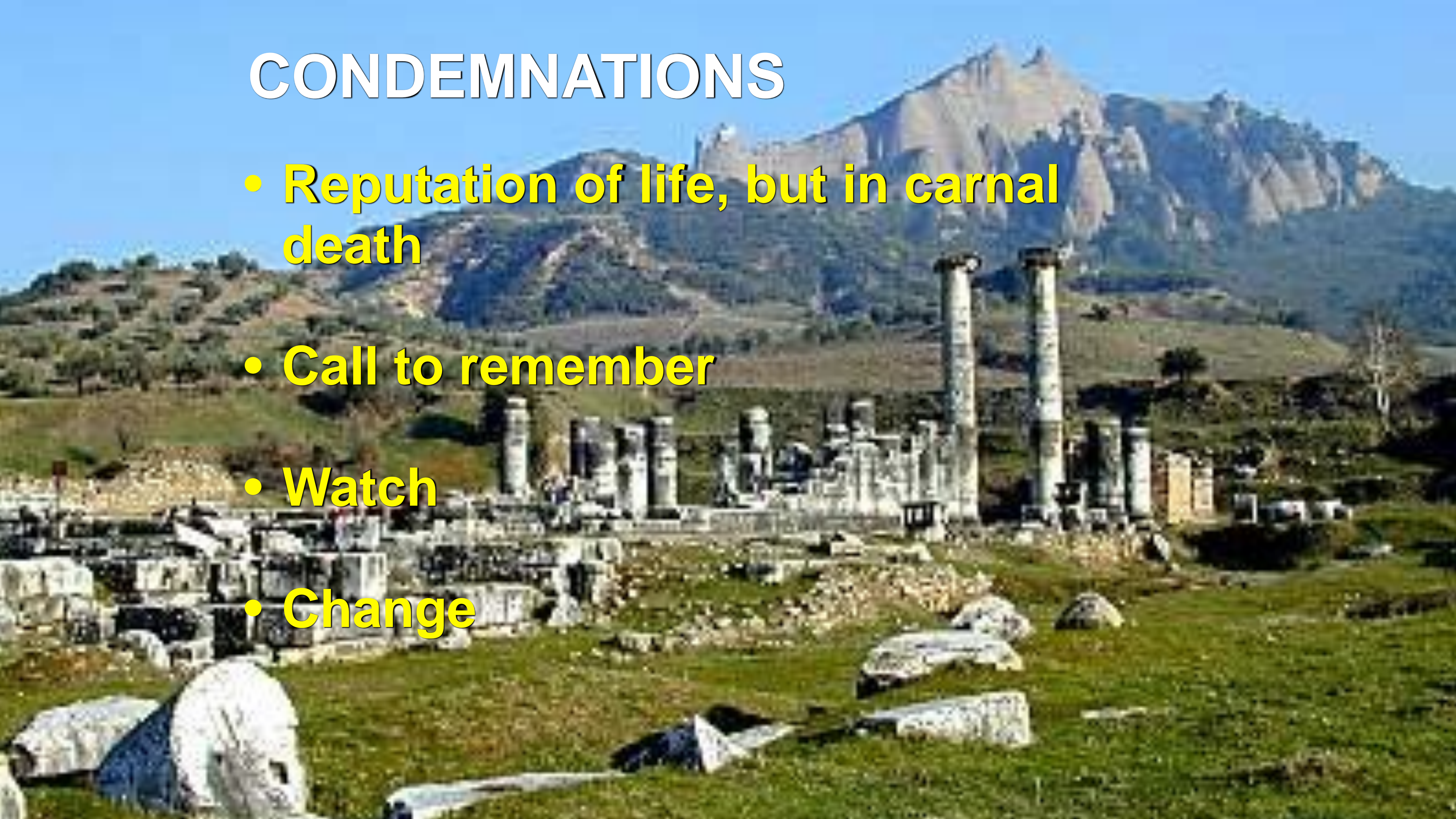
Sardis acropolis from below



**Revelation 3:1,**  
**“And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, ‘These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: “I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.” ’ ”**

# CONDEMNATIONS

- Reputation of life, but in carnal death
- Call to remember
- Watch
- Change



**Revelation 3:5, “He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.”**



- **White garments**
- **Name not blotted out of the Book of Life**
- **Praised before God and the angels**

# To the Angel of the Church of Philadelphia



Philadelphia Church of St. John column



**Revelation 3:7,**  
**“And to the angel**  
**of the church in**  
**Philadelphia write,**  
**‘These things says**  
**He who is holy, He**  
**who is true, “He**  
**who has the key of**  
**David, He who**  
**opens and no one**  
**shuts, and shuts**  
**and no one**  
**opens:” ’ ”**



# COMMENDATIONS

- Opportunity
- Spiritual strength
- Obedient in applying the Word
- Not denied Christ
- Endurance

Philadelphia view to south from acropolis

**Revelation 3:12, “He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. And I will write on him the name of My God and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And *I will write on him My new name.*”**

# INCENTIVES

- Hold fast
- Pillar in the Temple of God
- Name of My God, Name of the city of My God, My new name

Philadelphia Church of St. John columns

# To the Angel of the Church of Laodicea



Laodicea pipes with calcium



**Revelation 3:14**,  
“And to the angel of  
the church of the  
Laodiceans write,  
‘These things says  
the Amen, the  
Faithful and True  
Witness, the  
Beginning of the  
creation of God:’ ”



Laodicea clay pipe with calcium deposits

**Rev. 3:15**, “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

**Rev. 3:16**, “So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”  
~NKJV

# CONDEMNATIONS

- Lukewarm
- Compromised
- Self-sufficient
- Arrogant

Laodicea bridge crossing Lycus River

# INCENTIVES

- **Co-rule with Christ in the Kingdom**

Laodicea aqueduct pieces



**Rev. 3:21, “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.**

**Rev. 3:22, “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ~NKJV**