

Jesus Stand in the Middle of His Churches
Revelation 2:18-21: *Jealous for Her Love!*
A Listeners Guide

Introduction:

Christ's Characteristics (2:18) :
Son of God

Eyes

Feet

Christ's Commendation (2:19) :

I know your deeds, love, faith, and perseverance,

You are doing _____ now than you did at first

Christ's Complaint (2:20–21)

They tolerate 'Jezebel'

Teachers who _____ God's people

Teachers who are _____ of their sins

Christ's Correction (2:22-23):

If they do not repent they will _____ and _____

The churches will know

Christ's Covenant (2:24–25):

No additional burdens imposed

Jesus tells the faithful there to hold on to what they have.

The challenge (2:26–29)

They will help _____ over the nations

They will be _____ the morning star

The church has a reputation for being alive, and some of its members are “dressed in white.”

- **Complaint:** Reputed to be alive, but it is a dead church
- **Correction:**
“Wake up! Strengthen what remains”; remember, obey, repent
- **Consequences:** Jesus will come like a thief
- **Covenant:** Those who remain faithful will be rewarded by never having their names blotted from the book of life, walking with Christ; white garments.

Philadelphia (3:7-13),

- **Christ’s Characteristics:** Jesus is revealed as holy and true, and holding the key of David (covenant promise).
- **Commendation:** The church is characterized by faithfulness, keeping God’s word and enduring patiently
- **Complaint:** . No “problem” is mentioned.
- **Correction:** Hold on to what you have.
- **Consequences:** (None mentioned)
- **Covenant:** Those who hold on to what they have will be kept from persecution and will be pillars in the new city.

Laodicea (3:14-22),

- **Christ’s Characteristics:** Jesus appears as the faithful and true witness, ruler of the creation.
- **Commendation:** None mentioned
- **Complaint**

This church is “lukewarm,” neither hot nor cold. It’s also overconfident, proud, and secure in its wealth.

- **Correction**
Buy from Jesus gold, white clothes, salve; be earnest, repent.

• **Consequences:**
Jesus is about to spit them out.

- **Covenant:**
If it repents and opens the door to Jesus, he will renew them and bless them, and they will one day reign with him.

Sardis (3:1-6),

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Smyrna (2:8-11)

- **Christ’s Characteristics**
The first and the Last, who died and came to life again”

- **Commendation:** Enduring afflictions and poverty, yet rich
- **Complaint:** (None Mentioned)
- **Correction:** Do not be afraid of suffering, testing, persecution
- **Consequences:** (None Mentioned)
- **Covenant:** The crown of life; not harmed by the 2nd death.

Pergamum (2:12-17),

- **Christ’s:** the one who wields a sharp, double-edged sword.
- **Commendation**
The church is characterized by faithfulness, even though located in a wicked city. Its problem is that it permits immorality. Remaining true; not renouncing faith in Jesus
- **Complaint:** Some hold to teachings of Balaam & Nicolaitans
- **Correction:** “Repent....!”
- **Consequences:** Jesus will fight against them with the sword of his mouth
- **Covenant:** Hidden manna (the Spirit of Christ), and a white stone (identity, innocence)

Thyatira (2:18-29),

- **Christ’s Characteristics:** Jesus is shown with blazing eyes and burnished bronze feet
- **Commendation:**
Characterized by great love, perseverance, and service,
- **Complaint:** It also tolerates Jezebel & her false teachings
- **Correction:** “Hold on to what you have”
- **Consequences:** Intense suffering
- **Covenant**
Those who remain faithful will be rewarded with authority over the nations; the morning star

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Christ in the Midst of His Churches

Key Elements of Christ's Message to the Churches



Ephesus (2:1-7)

- **Christ's Characteristics** (John's vision of Jesus)
Jesus- holding 7 stars and walking among the lampstands
- **Commendation** (Positive characteristic)
Hardworking, persevering; intolerant of wickedness; enduring hardship; not weary; hating practices of Nicolaitans.
- **Complaint** (Negative Characteristic)
it has lost its first love and lacks passion for Christ
- **Correction** (What must the church do?)
Remember, repent, and do what you did at first
- **Consequences** (warning if church fails to listen)
I will remove your lampstand.
- **Covenant** (reward promised to those who overcome)
The right to eat from the tree of life.

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