

## Revelation 3

### Message to Sardis

To the angel of the church in Sardis write:

He who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, and *yet* you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Be constantly alert, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God. <sup>3</sup> So remember what you have received and heard; and keep *it*, and repent. Then if you are not alert, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.

<sup>4</sup> But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> The one who overcomes will be clothed the same way, in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. <sup>6</sup> The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

### Message to Philadelphia

<sup>7</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

He who is holy, who is true, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, and who shuts and no one opens, says this:

<sup>8</sup> 'I know your deeds. Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut, because you have a little power, and have followed My word, and have not denied My name. <sup>9</sup> Behold, I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and *make them* know that I have loved you.

<sup>10</sup> Because you have kept My word of perseverance, I also will keep you from the hour of the testing, that *hour* which is about to come upon the whole world, to test those who live on the earth. <sup>11</sup> I am coming quickly; hold firmly to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. <sup>12</sup> The one who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he will not go out from it anymore; 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 My new name. <sup>13</sup> The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

### Message to Laodicea

<sup>14</sup> "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this:

<sup>15</sup> 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth. <sup>17</sup> Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything," and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked,

<sup>18</sup> I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be

revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see. <sup>19</sup>Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. <sup>20</sup>Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. <sup>21</sup>The one who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne. <sup>22</sup>The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

### **We will use five tools on our expedition that are built around five questions**

What questions were provoked within you?

Did anything confuse you?

Did anything move you emotionally?

Did God instruct you to do something?

Did you gain any insight into God’s character?

### **Pauls observations and insights**

1. The seven spirits of God and the seven stars – who and what are they?
2. This is a church with a reputation of being alive, but they were all front, whose heart was dead.
3. Dead represents spiritual unawareness of all God is, what God does and what He is doing.
4. The words ‘wake up’ is an instruction to take charge of oneself and reassign your spirit over yourself.
5. To remember is to remind yourself of what you had and now have lost.
6. To repent is to take charge of your thinking and re-think things that are in line with God’s will.
7. Disobedience to this instruction is going to bring about an end to the church at Sardis.
8. To soil a garment is to give yourself to the practice of what is wrong.
9. Worthy ones are the obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit of God’s righteous ways.
10. Overcomers will walk in white clothing with Jesus Christ, they will retain their name in the book of life, non-overcomers won’t!
11. Jesus Christ will confess the obedient before God and all His angels.
12. The confession of the saints is to say your name before heavens hosts.
13. The ear of the spirit is an ear open to the Holy Spirit’s voice and a giving of instruction to one’s spirit.
14. To the Angel, is to the spirit of the Church in Philadelphia.
15. Declaration of ones deeds and character identifies the person, being Jesus Christ, who has all authority.
16. An open door is to have the right to enter and to exit without challenge.
17. To keep His word is to obey, to not deny His faithfulness despite persecution.
18. The synagogue of satan are all the tares Jesus spoke about in Matthew in the parable of the tares and wheat.
19. Because of your faithfulness I will humble them by exalting you.
20. The hour of testing is the great tribulation coming to the earth.

21. 'Quickly to God' is relative to Him.
22. To hold fast is to stand firm, to not give up.
23. Overcomers will form the temple pillars and worship in the permanent residence, an insight into God's holy name.
24. A new world is coming into being from God.
25. Jesus Christ called Himself the Yes and Amen, the faithful and true witness.
26. To be half committed is to be half uncommitted to God, it is an offence to the commitment He has made to you.
27. To think you are more than you are in your own eyes is self-deception if your evaluation is not the same as God's.
28. The self-deceived are the most blind of all because they refuse to listen.
29. To be internally blind is to be the most blind of all.
30. The opportunity the Gospel gives to restore a right perspective is a most powerful thing.
31. To wear new clothes is to be a new person, living out of your new nature in Christ.
32. Seeing is to know what you couldn't know before you saw it.
33. To be zealous is to be pro-active in your desire to discover what there is to be discovered.
34. His standing is a fact, His knocking is a constant, His speaking is to all but only those who hear His voice let Him in.
35. When He comes in, it is for fellowship and blessing.
36. To sit with Him on His throne is to rule with Him always.
37. Jesus is in God, in charge and when we are in Him, Jesus, we rule with God.