

REVELATION CH. 2

LESSONS FROM THE 7 CHURCH AGES



EPHESUS

AD 53-170

CHARACTERISTICS

- Church of grace (Gentiles)
- High ambition → relaxed
- Messenger=Paul

SYMBOLS

- 7 stars in the HAND OF GOD
- Two churches (true & false) together



« 72-2 † EPHESIAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.3

These seven churches located in Asia Minor contained certain characteristics within them, at that ancient date, which became the mature fruit of later ages. **What were just seed plants back there came out later in a mature harvest, even as Jesus said,**

"For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?"

Luke 23:31.

« 82-4 † EPHESIAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.3

Persecution and trials are a natural, normal part of the Christian life. There is only one thing you can do about them. **Commit them all to God, judge not, and leave their outworking and final judgment to Him.**

SMYRNA

AD 170-312

CHARACTERISTICS

- Name: “bitter” (myrrh)
- Messenger=Irenaeus
- Intensified tribulation

SYMBOLS

- 2 temples (Zeus/Cybele), golden street → Maryolatry, union of church & state
- False claims



« 117-1 † SMYRNAEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.4

Why does He stand by? The reason is in Romans 8:17-18,

"And if children, then heirs, heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together.

For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

Unless we suffer with Him we cannot reign with Him. You have to suffer to reign. The reason for this is that character simply is never made without suffering.

Character is a VICTORY, not a gift. A man without character can't reign because power apart from character is Satanic. But power with character is fit to rule. **And since He wants us to share even His throne on the same basis that He overcame and is set down in His Father's throne, then we have to overcome to sit with Him.** And the little temporary suffering we go through now is not worthy to be compared to the tremendous glory that will be revealed in us when He comes. Oh, what treasures are laid up for those who are willing to enter into His kingdom through much tribulation.

PERGAMOS

AD 312-606

CHARACTERISTICS

- Name: “Married” /Seat of Satan
- Messenger=Martin of Tours
- Trinity had become a doctrine.
- Titles replaced Name.

SYMBOLS

- Sword with 2 edges→Divinity
(Word in His Name)
- Popular doctrine→ believe church’s teaching.



« 164-2 † PERGAMEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.5

When the bride will get back to being a Word bride, she will produce the very works that Jesus produced. The Word is God. The Spirit is God. They are all ONE. One cannot work apart from the other. If one truly has the Spirit of God, he will have the Word of God. That is how it was with the prophets. They had the indwelling Spirit of God and the Word came to them. That is how it was with Jesus. In Him was the Spirit without measure and the Word came to Him. (Jesus both began to do and TEACH. My doctrine is not My own, but the Father's That sent Me. Acts 1:1, John. 7:16.)

« 181-1 † PERGAMEAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.5

The reason that this is part of the eulogy of the Spirit is because **these brave soldiers of the cross were overcoming Satan right in the midst of his own throne room.** They were winning the battle through the Name and Faith of Jesus right in the camp of the leaders of darkness. What a tremendous commendation. Like the mighty men of David who invaded the camp of the enemy to bring David thirst-quenching water, so these giants of faith invaded the realm of Satan's earthly stronghold, and by preaching and exhorting brought the water of salvation to those who lived under the shadow of death.