

REVELATION 2:1-7

THE CHURCH AT EPHESUS – THE EPHESIANS

Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; these things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven candlesticks;

I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them to be liars.

The emphasis is placed on the seven stars and seven candlesticks which are symbolic of the angels which carry the message to the seven churches which carry the truth and represent the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is the originator of all truths and righteousness.

The Apostle Paul is also used to establish the church of Ephesus and address the church with the letter which addresses the faithfulness of the believers at Ephesus and the need to endure and overcome the whiles of the enemy. Oftentimes, in the letter to the Ephesians Paul uses the phrase “in times past” to have us remember the deliverance and the foundation of the grace through faith in Jesus Christ that was established. He wants us to remember the old spiritual condition that we were in when he found us so we can use that to overcome the present battles and warfare and walk in the newness given through the blood of Jesus Christ and trust and believe that all things are possible which seem impossible to man. He wants us to not go back to the familiar. Remember the promises of salvation and redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ. The Lord pleads with us to stay the course of the truth and fight the good fight of faith. We have overcome the falsehood. We have overcome the world.

This letter to the Ephesians gives the revelation of the purified love of Jesus Christ and the Spirit of Promise and leads and guides us in the path of all truths and righteousness. This love passes all understanding.

This church has the operations of the Spirit of God and just wants to do the will and purpose of Christ. They want to go forth and work signs, miracles, and wonders that build the faith. They have searched for the true apostles and desire fellowship with the true believers. The fellowship that they have desire for cannot have them go backwards to the old life of sin and iniquity. There is a wrestling with the enemy in the spirit and that adversary wants you to take down the standard of righteousness and go back to the old lifestyle. The Lord Jesus, however, tells us to be strong in the Lord and in the power of his might and to put on the whole armor of God he has given us to overcome!

Nevertheless, I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thou first love.

Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do thy first works, or else will I come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

It is easy to slip into the “Mary/Martha syndrome” where you become so accustomed to doing a work for the Lord and are so used to looking outwardly at people and the way they live and how they receive the word of God that you can lose sight of why you fell in love with Jesus Christ in the first place; Being in the lap of Jesus where there is true worship, intimacy, mercy, and longsuffering. Jesus loved us enough to be touched with our every infirmity and those things that concern us. He said come learn of his ways because his yolk is easy and his burden is light. Come unto him because he cares for you. Therefore, the message is a sense of urgency to the church at Ephesus to return to the Lord with

repentance. He says return to your first love when the love and faithful works were done in purity and sincerity of heart. The Lord Jesus pleads with them to remember from where they had fallen. What caused you to stumble? Get back to that place and surrender completely, repent, and overcome. Get back to the first work that the Lord had you start as an effective member of the body of Christ with simplicity and purified love. He says to the church that if they do not return, then will he remove that candlestick which is symbolic of his light, the church, that he uses to draw unto him. When darkness comes no man can work.

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; to him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.