

The Seven Churches Of Revelation

Scripture Text:

Revelation 1:10-11 KJV I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, (11) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Message:

In Revelation 1, we are told the book is about **a revelation of Jesus Christ.**

- John indeed sees a revelation of Jesus in the very first chapter.
- It's Jesus in a way that John had never seen Him.
- Eyes of fire, white hair, brazen fiery legs.
- This is a spiritual picture of Jesus, the natural eye cannot see.

Jesus is in seven branches of a candlestick.

- Branches from the tree always carry the life of the tree.

The book begins by having John seeing this and falling in fear as though he died.

- And what results is a picture of the purpose of the book in

providing a revelation of Jesus.

- Jesus says I WAS DEAD AND I AM ALIVE.
- Why would he say that to John in telling Him to not fear, after John fell as he had died?
- John needed a revelation of Jesus to deal with his problem.
- How would a revelation of JESUS, help JOHN'S problem?
- John feels like a dead man in fear.
- **It is because JOHN MUST SEE WHAT IS TRUE OF JESUS AND THEN KNOW THAT HE CAN APPLY THE "I AM " mode of Christ's resurrection from death and recover from the dead fear he experienced, also!**
- This is exactly what also happens in the cases of the seven churches in chapters 2 - 3.

Jesus takes a different trait of Himself from the vision in Rev 1 and introduces Himself to each church.

And I also noticed one day that the seven seals are related to the seven churches.

We will show how they add to the thought of what Jesus is saying as we go along.

**CHURCH 1
EPHESUS**

Rev 2:1-7

(1) 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 golden candlesticks;**

(2) 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 liars:

(3) And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

(4) Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left

thy first love.

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

(6) But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

(7) 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.

Rev 1:(13) And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

(16) And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

This church had a problem with having departed from their first love.

- This refers to the great infatuation for Jesus they had at the start.

Jer 2:2

(2) Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; I remember thee, the kindness of thy youth, the love of thine espousals, when thou wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

Jer 2:3

(3) Israel was holiness unto the LORD, and the firstfruits of his increase: all that devour him shall offend; evil shall come upon them, saith the LORD.

Jesus shows himself to this church as the one in the midst of the candlesticks, because He was THE MIDST OF THEIR LOVE beforehand.

- And he was no longer the center of their church.
- He said He'd remove the candlestick, because He walked in the

midst of them, having control of them, and even the seven LIGHTS/STARS of the candlesticks.

- Aaron as High Priest would ensure the candlesticks were always burning bright.
- Jesus is like Aaron in the midst as High Priest.

Ephesus had to overcome and eat of the tree of life in the MIDST OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

Notice how the introduction of Jesus is associated with their accommodation for overcoming.

- Midst of candlesticks, midst of Paradise of God.
- As the TREE OF LIFE is like the CANDLESTICK with 7 branches.

The idea of SEVEN candlesticks and SEVEN stars seems to imply FULL LIGHT.

- ALL TRUTH.

1 John 1:5-7 KJV

(5) This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.**

(6) If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

(7) But **if we walk in the light, as he is in the light,** we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Jesus is the greatest of all truths we could know.

- We are complete IN HIM.
- HE is all truth.
- The Spirit guides into all truth, or all Jesus, Because He said He is

the truth.

They had to walk in ALL Light as Jesus did!

- Fellowship WITH HIM.
- They had to see themselves as beneficiaries of His attributes, and walk in all truth as well as He was.

Revelation 6:1-2 KJV

(1) And I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals, and I heard, as it were the noise of thunder, one of the four beasts saying, Come and see.

(2) And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.

I saw how the seals and Jesus' words in Matthew 24 perfectly lined up, which helps us to see that the first seal of the white horse represents FALSE DOCTRINE.

- The church must overcome false doctrine.
- Ephesus did.

Matthew 24:4-5 KJV

(4) And Jesus answered and said unto them, Take heed that no man deceive you.

(5) For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

But they had to overcome the lack of love for Christ, Himself.

- They were too much into work of God and truth of God, and not God of the work and truth.

Apply what is true of Him, and walk in the midst of the Garden WITH

HIM.

- Proceed further in that Garden and eat fruit of life.
- He was in the midst of the garden, and if they apply that to themselves, they can be there and eat of fruit of life.

CHURCH 2 SMYRNA

Revelation 2:8-11 KJV

(8) And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

(9) I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

(10) Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

(11) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

Revelation 1:11 KJV

(11) Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Revelation 1:17-18 KJV

(17) And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

(18) I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Same issue John was dealt with.

Death was threatening Smyrnaean church believers.

- They must apply Jesus' victory over death, since He was dead and is now alive, to their lives and thereby overcome.
- Notice how overcoming is accomplished by applying the specific trait of Jesus to themselves.
- Tribulation and warring occurred against Smyrna's church.

The second seal was war.

Revelation 6:3-4 KJV

(3) And when he had opened the second seal, I heard the second beast say, Come and see.

(4) And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword.

Matthew's second listed event was war.

Matthew 24:6-7 KJV

(6) And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.

(7) For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: ...

We can hold on despite warfare against our souls, since Jesus died and resurrected from death.

- Many might run from death, but these folks would face it, and were encouraged to FACE IT since Jesus DID die and resurrected from it.
- They would get a crown of life if they apply Jesus' trait to themselves.

They would not be hurt of the second death if they overcome.

- Imagine if they gave up and fled church?

- Their fear of death would award them the TRULY AWFUL second death.

Revelation 20:14 KJV

(14) And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

I would rather die a natural death and wind up with resurrection life and a crown of life, than flee natural death and be cast into the lake of fire, the second death, from which there is NO RESURRECTION.

CHURCH 3 PERGAMOS

Revelation 2:12-17 KJV

(12) And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

(13) I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

(14) But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

(15) So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

(16) Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

(17) 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 hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Revelation 1:16 KJV

(16) And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went

a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

From His mouth, means it is the WORD OF GOD.

Hebrews 4:12 KJV

(12) For **the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

This church was where Satan's seat stood.

- History says the true Babylonian priest fled to Pergamos when Belshazzar died, and the Med-Persians expelled the Chaldean priesthood from Babylon to Pergamos when they conquered it.

One man gave his life for the faith, named Antipas.

But they had a problem with false doctrine.

- Balaam's doctrine and Nicolaitan doctrine.
- Rev 2: 6 shows the Ephesians hated it.

They were not actually a sect, but were professing Christians who, like Balaam of old, tried to introduce into the Church a false freedom, that is, licentiousness; this was a reaction in the opposite direction from Judaism, the first danger to the Church combated in the council of Jerusalem, and by Paul in the Epistle to Galatians. These symbolical Nicolaitanes, or followers of Balaam, abused Paul's doctrine of the grace of God into a plea for lasciviousness (2Pe_2:15-16, 2Pe_2:19; Jud_1:4, Jud_1:11 who both describe the same sort of seducers as followers of Balaam). The difficulty that they should appropriate a name branded with infamy in Scripture is met by TRENCH: The Antinomian Gnostics were so opposed to John as a Judaizing apostle that they would assume as a name of chiefest honor one which John branded with dishonor.

The third seal was as follows:

Revelation 6:5-6 KJV

(5) And when he had opened the third seal, I heard the third beast say, Come and see. And I beheld, and lo a black horse; and he that sat on him had a pair of balances in his hand.

(6) And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and see thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

FAMINE.

We know there are famines of the WORD OF GOD.

- It is during these times that temptation to LOOK TO ANOTHER SOURCE for bread of life occurs.
- God is not speaking, so we look elsewhere.
- And the INTELLECT that searches with out reliance on God's Word is a good place for Satan's seat.

Matthew 24:7 KJV

(7)**b** and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.

Some feel like going back to Egypt where Garlics and onions are.

- But God sends MANNA if we hold on!

Revelation 2:17 KJV

(17) 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 hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Manna is the truth!

John 6:31-35 KJV

(31) Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

(32) Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

(33) For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

(34) Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

(35) And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

John 6:49-51 KJV

(49) Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

(50) This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

(51) I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

The truths of the cross.

John 6:55-56 KJV

(55) For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

(56) He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.

Since the last supper bread and wine spoke of Jesus body and blood on the cross in death, then eating bread and wine is TRUTHS OF THE CROSS.

UNION truths.

They must apply what is true of Christ to themselves, having the sword of God's word, and destroy those false doctrines, or he would destroy them with the doctrines.

Manna is true doctrine.

CHURCH 4

THYATIRA

Revelation 2:18-29 KJV

(18) And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass;

(19) I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.

(20) Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

(21) And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not.

(22) Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds.

(23) And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

(24) But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

(25) But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

(26) And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

(27) And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

(28) And I will give him the morning star.

(29) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 1:14-15 KJV

(14)b ...and his eyes were as a flame of fire;

(15) And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

They suffered Jezebel to teach fornication.

Whoever this person was, she was like Jezebel was to Ahab.

- She claimed words from God in false prophetess manners to inspire fornication, etc.

God would kill her and her children with death.

FOURTH SEAL.

Revelation 6:7-8 KJV

(7) And when he had opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth beast say, Come and see.

(8) And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth.

Matthew 24:9-10 KJV

(9) Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

(10) And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another.

Notice that JESUS SEARCHES REINS AND HEARTS

Revelation 2:23 KJV

(23) And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works.

EYES OF FIRE.

Some did not have that problem in the church.

Revelation 2:24-25 KJV

(24) But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

(25) But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.

So the EYES OF FIRE apply to the SEEING OF THEIR WICKEDNESS, while the FEET LIKE FINE BRASS apply to those who withstood against her error, and were encouraged to HOLD FAST AND KEEP STANDING.

They all had to apply his eyes of fire and feet like brass to SEE the wickedness there and STAND FAST in truth.

(26) And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

(27) And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.

(28) And I will give him the morning star.

Power over nations is implied in feet like brass:

Revelation 10:1 KJV

(1) And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:

Revelation 10:2 KJV

(2) And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,

Standing on land and see as though CLAIMING IT AS HIS OWN, and roaring like a lion in challenge for anyone to defy Him.

Revelation 22:16 KJV

(16) I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the

churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Jesus GIVE HIMSELF.. they share HIS DOMINION.

CHURCH 5 SARDIS

Revelation 3:1-6 KJV

- (1) And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.
- (2) Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.
- (3) Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.
- (4) Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.
- (5) He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.
- (6) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 1:16 KJV

- (16) And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

Revelation 1:4 KJV

- (4) John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne;

These are also mentioned here:

Revelation 5:6 KJV

(6) And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Notice he says HE KNOWS their works.....

SEVEN EYES ARE SEVEN SPIRITS.

2 Chronicles 16:7-9 KJV

(7) And at that time Hanani the seer came to Asa king of Judah, and said unto him, Because thou hast relied on the king of Syria, and not relied on the LORD thy God, therefore is the host of the king of Syria escaped out of thine hand.

(8) Were not the Ethiopians and the Lubims a huge host, with very many chariots and horsemen? yet, because thou didst rely on the LORD, he delivered them into thine hand.

(9) For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars.

HE SEES ALL.

SEVEN EYES.

Seven spirits means HE KNOWS ALL.

Isaiah 11:1-4 KJV

(1) And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

(2) And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

(3) And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD:
and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after

the hearing of his ears:

(4) **But with righteousness shall he judge the poor**, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked.

John 7:24 KJV

(24) Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

John 8:15-16 KJV

(15) Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.

(16) And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

Jesus had the seven spirits because He had what the seven spirits would give the BRANCH.

Rev 3:(2) **Be watchful**, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

FULL OF WATCHING.

- SEVEN EYES.

Works are not PERFECT.

- Another reference to 7.

(3) Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

How did they receive?

- FAITH FROM THE WORD.
- The whole gospel was applying what is true of Christ to themselves,

who are in Christ.

- His death, burial and resurrection.

He would come like a thief, which is also mentioned in Matthew 24.

Matthew 24:42-43 KJV

(42) Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come.

(43) But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.

5th seal:

Revelation 6:9-11 KJV

(9) And when he had opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of them that were slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held:

(10) And they cried with a loud voice, saying, How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?

(11) And white robes were given unto every one of them; and it was said unto them, that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled.

Compare with:

Rev 3:(4) Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

(5) He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Holding on and wearing white!

Notice:

(1) And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

(6) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

They had a name of death, they must have a name of LIFE in the BOOK OF LIFE.

They must apply what is true of JESUS SEVEN EYES AND WATCH!

CHURCH 6 PHILADELPHIA

Revelation 3:7-13 KJV

(7) And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

(8) I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

(9) Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

(10) Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

(11) Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

(12) Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my

new name.

(13) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 1:18 KJV

(18) I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Key of David is key of death and hell in chapter 1.

He has power over both.

- He raised up his own body, took Annanias' and Saphira's lives.
- And power over GRAVE.
- He will release those from the grave when He pleases.

Possesses the gates of his enemies.

Genesis 22:17 KJV

(17) That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

This church had no problem.

To overcome they had to hold fast what they had so none takes their crown.

In lieu of keys of David, we read of TEMPLE HOUSING.

- They go in and not come out, because HE HAS KEYS.

Speaks of a KINGDOM!

6th seal.

Revelation 6:12-17 KJV

(12) And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

(13) And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

(14) And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places.

(15) And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains;

(16) And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb:

(17) For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Sun, moon and stars losing light speaks of kingdoms falling.

- Notice that KINGS of earth cry out with slaves.
- Kingdoms of earth are defeated.

His kingdom overcomes all other kingdoms.

Daniel 2:44-45 KJV

(44) And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

(45) Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

God's NAME was on these overcoming people!

HIS TEMPLE SPEAKS OF HIS NAME.

- Throughout the Exodus, He said He sought a city to put his name there, and that became Jerusalem.
- And the TEMPLE was put there.

His name on the foreheads means HIS MIND IS IN THEM.

- They have HIS WORD IN THEM.

Apply His hold of the key of David over death and the grave to themselves.

- Continue to HOLD FAST.
- Keep power on their lives.
- So door of temple is open to them and no one else can close it.
- And no one can open it once they get in and remove them, since they closed it and none can open.

6th Seal agrees with Matthew

Matthew 24:29-31 KJV

(29) Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken:

(30) And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

(31) And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

In order to understand gathering together, we must read in chapter 23 about what Israel WOULD have known in being gathered, which 24 says

the church will know instead.

Matthew 23:35-38 KJV

(35) That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

(36) Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.

(37) O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!

(38) Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

Gathered in SAFETY.

- Safe in the temple.

Isaiah 22:22-24 KJV

(22) And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.

(23) And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house.

(24) And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

Like being in temple and temple resting on the pillars, the one with key of David has all glory of Father's house hanging on Him.

SEVENTH CHURCH LAODICEA

Revelation 3:14-22 KJV

(14) And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of

the creation of God;

(15) I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

(16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

(17) Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

(18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

(19) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

(20) Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

(21) To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

(22) He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Revelation 1:5 KJV

(5) And from Jesus Christ, who is **the faithful witness**, and **the first begotten of the dead**, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

Their error was lukewarmness.

- Boastful of spiritual riches, but poor.
- To overcome, must open door and let Him in and he will sup with them.

Apply His faithfulness to themselves!

- They can be faithful since they are in Him and He is faithful.

7 always depicts rest.

- Come in and SUP!
- Rest.

SIT ON THRONE.

- We are rich if we are seated with Him over all!

We apply what is true of Him to ourselves.

Every problem these churches faced, Jesus was their answer.

- They were COMPLETE in Him.
- He had all they needed.
- **Since they were in HIM, what was true for Him was true for them.**
- **The sap in the vine is in the branches as well.**