

## LPC JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

We are a family of Believers, glorifying God, welcoming new members from near and far, learning to love God and neighbor.

JOHN 10:3 ...He calls His own sheep by name...

Here are notes I took while listening to one of the many lessons Chuck Missler teaches on TV. Dr. Missler is my favorite teacher and speaker. All the information and charts in this article are his. All statements are his. He has written many amazing books. His program is on God TV (GTV), channel 365 on Directv. This lesson is one from his series "Learn the Bible in 24 Hours". Here he is in Revelation. Please read Revelation chapters 1-5 with this article, especially read chapters 1 and 2.

The Old Testament shows Christ in prophecy ("Behold He comes!"). The Gospels show Christ in history ("Behold He dies!"). The book of Acts shows Christ in the Church ("Behold He lives!"). The Epistles show Christ in experience ("Behold He saves!"). And the Apocalypse shows Christ coming in glory ("Behold He reigns!").

Revelation (it is singular) means "the unveiling". It is the consumation of all things. It is the only book of the Bible promising a special blessing to the reader (chapter 1, verse 3). There are 404 verses containing over 800 allusions from the Old Testament. The more you know the Old Testament the more comfortable you are with Revelation. Revelation presents the climax of God's plan for man.

God gave this revelation to Jesus (ch. 1, verse 1) it says in Revelation; but at the time of Mark Jesus said, "...only the Father knows the time..". Evidently He knows here. In verse 3 the Greek word for the time means "swiftly one thing after another". It's what we get our word "tachometer" from.

John SAW visions "signified" by God's angel to him. The Asia spoken of at this time was mostly what we know as Turkey today. The revelation is from: 1. Him- God the Father 2. the 7 Spirits- the Holy Spirit\* 3.\*\* Jesus- 3 titles here.

\*Isaiah 11:2 names 7 titles of the Holy Spirit:

1. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him.
2. The Spirit of Wisdom
3. and Understanding,
4. The Spirit of Counsel

- 5. and Might,
- 6. The Spirit of Knowledge
- 7. and of the Fear of the Lord.

\*\*" ...the Faithful Witness, ...First Begotten of the dead, ...the Prince of the kings of the earth"

In chapter 1 there are 24 titles of Jesus. These identities are used also in other places in the book.

In verse 6 it says Jesus has made us kings and priests. The only ones who have been kings and priests are Melchisedec, or Melchizedek, Jesus, and us.

Features of Jesus- Rev. 1:12-16

Idioms also in the Old Testament

1. Hair, head				Dan. 7:9
2. Eyes				Heb. 1:13, 4:13
	Flame of fire			1 Cor. 3:13, Mal. 3:2
3. Feet	Symbol of walk			
	Brass	Symbol of judgement	(cf. brazen serpent	Num. 21)
4. Voice, many waters			Ez. 1:24, 43:2	
				Dan.
10:6				
5. Right hand	7 stars			
	Lampstands: He is in the midst and, at the same time, the lampstands are in His hand.			
6. Mouth	2-edged sword			Heb. 3:12, Eph. 6:17, Isa. 49:2
	Judges the unbeliever			John 12:48
	Earth smitten			Isa. 11:4
	Antichrist consumed			2 Thess. 2:8
7. Countenance, Sun				Matt. 17

In ch. 1:19 God gives an outline of Revelation. "Write (to John) the things which thou hast SEEN," ( the vision of Christ in ch. 1 ) "and the things which ARE," (the 7 churches in ch. 2,3) "and the things which SHALL BE hereafter;" ( which follows after the churches- ch. 4-22)

Why are these particular churches addressed? There were many other churches at the time. It is an interesting question. Each of the churches' letters in this book has code words in it. There are four levels of meaning of these letters/ churches.

1. Each of these churches was an actual, or local, church and had the the same problems addressed in the letter to it. Archeology has evidenced proof of this.

2. Admonitory- Each church is being told what is wrong with it. And all churches are admonished as it says "...to the churchES". So every church should examine itself for the stated shortcomings.

3. Homeletic- There is a personal level to each letter ("He that has an ear..."). So every person should examine himself for the shortcomings in each church's letter.

4. Prophetic- Each letter can describe one of the church's periods of history.

There are seven design elements to each letter also.

1. NAME of the church means something

2. TITLE of Christ chosen means something

3. COMMENDATION -Every church is surprised when told by the letter what it was doing well. The ones who thought they were doing well were not. And the ones who thought they were not doing well were.

4. CONCERN-The letter to each church tells of an area of concern.

5. EXHORTATION-The letter to each church calls, or invites, or implores, it to improve in a certain way.

6. PROMISE to the overcomer- Each letter to a church contains a promise to the one(s) who overcomes.

7. "HE THAT HATH AN EAR, HEAR..."- Each letter contains this phrase to tell us to "hear" what the Spirit is telling us in that letter.

Please read each message, or letter, to each of these 7 churches in Rev. 2 & 3. I have put a few interesting notes for each one.

1st Church: EPHESUS- means darling

\*In verse 6 is the term "Nicolaitans". It comes from the Greek word "nicas" meaning conquer,

overcome, or rule. "Laos" means people and can refer to people in the church. Some believe the Nicolaitans were a sect in the 1st century abusing liberty in Christ. Dr. Missler suggests one way to take this is shepherds (ones in the pulpits) using their clerical stature, or position, to rule over their laity (people in the church). As Jesus demonstrated if we want to be great in the Kingdom we wash each other's feet (be a servant for each other).-John 13

2nd Church: SMYRNA- means myrrh, death

\*Myrrh was used to embalm the corpse. The magi brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh to baby Jesus. They were actually predicting His death. In the Millennium we will bring gifts to Jesus, but we will bring gold and frankincense, not myrrh. (By the way, if you are born two times you only die once. If you are born one time you die two times.)

\*There were "10 Days" of death of the church by leaders (actually over a period of 250 years) after Jesus' death.

54-68 A. D. under Nero

95-96 A. D. under Domitian (John's exile)

104-117 A. D. under Trajan

161-180 A. D. under Marcus Aurelius

200-211 A. D. under Septimus Severus

235-237 A. D. under Maximinus

249-251 A. D. under Decius

257-260 A. D. under Valerian

270-260 A. D. under Aurelian

303-313 A. D. under Diocletian

In ch. 2 verse 13 Antipas' name is mentioned as a martyr.

3rd Church: PERGAMUS- means mixed marriage, perverse

\*In verse 14 the "doctrine of Balaam" is mentioned. Israel's Enemy, a leader Balak, hired the prophet Balaam to trick God's people into displeasing God by encouraging the men to "enjoy" the pagan women who mixed sex with their worship. So Israel here were mixing idolatry with worship- or compromising with the world. Israel also had the doctrine of the Nicolaitans. The remedy was the Word of God.

~ All the above churches have their promises in a post script of the letter. The next four churches' promises have theirs in the body of their letters. This leads one to think that the first three are in the

past and the next four are in the future.~

4th Church: THYATIRA- formerly Semiramus who was the consort of Nimrod, the first dictator of the world

\*In verse 20 of ch. 2 they mention Jezebel. She was known as the "queen of heaven". Her husband, Ahab, was a king over Israel. He was evil as was his wife, Jezebel. During his reign they used false witnesses to condemn and execute those who stood in their way of gaining land for their church/ gain (ch. 21 of 1 Kings). Sounds like today!

\*Judgement appears to be coming to Thyatira as it did to Ahab and Jezebel. It will be cast into the Tribulation as the wording says.

5th Church: SARDIS-means a stone, probably ruby (red); was a stone in the breastplate of the high priest

\*Here the Holy Spirit is needed. There is no commendation in this letter. "Name" echoes all over this message. That denotes denomination. In ch. 3, verse 3 it says IF you don't watch, Jesus will come as a thief and you won't know the hour. That insinuates that if you DO watch you will know when He is coming.

6th Church: Philadelphia- means brotherly love

\*Dr. Missler says this is the missionary church. It has the open door that none can shut. There is no concern in this letter. Jesus says in verse 10 that He will keep "thee from the hour of temptation", that is time of tribulation.

~In Revelation there are two kinds of people: the saved and the earth-dwellers.~

7th Church: LAODICEA-laos means people, dike means judgement, punishment, vengeance

\*The people rule here. There's no Word of God. No commendation is given to this church. In ch. 3, verse 20 Jesus is outside the door ("I stand at the door and knock..."). His invitation is to individuals. That is the context of this letter. This is an indictment against the church of Laodicea.

DESIGN TABLE OF THE 7 LETTERS

	EPHESUS	SMYRNA	PERGAMUS	THYATIRA	SARDIS
PHILADELPHIA					
LAODICEA					
NAME (Church)	+	+	+	+	
+	+	+		+	
TITLE (of Christ used)	+	+	+		+
+		+	+		

COMMENDATION	+		+		+	
+	no		+		no	
CONCERNS		-		no		-
-	-		no		-	
EXHORTATION		+		+		+
+	+		+		+	+

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

PROMISE TO THE						
+	+		+		+	(in body of letter)
OVERCOMER		+		+		+
						(in a post script)

#### PROPHETIC PROFILE?

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Group A                                    | 1. EPHESUS- Apostolic Church       |
| ( PS Promise)                              | 2. SMYRNA- Persecuted Church       |
| Church (to the world)                      | 3. PERGAMUS- Married               |
| Group B                                    | 4. THYATIRA- Medieval              |
| Church (temporal power)                    |                                    |
| (Promise in letter's body)                 | 5. SARDIS- Denominational Church   |
| Endured to end, refers to 2nd coming       | 6. PHILADELPHIA- Missionary Church |
| 7. LAODICEA- Apostate Church (fallen away) |                                    |

\*Thyatira is in the Tribulation (ch. 2, verse 22).

\*Philadelphia is not in the Tribulation (ch. 3, verse 10).

#### THE 7 KINGDOM PARABLES

REV. 2 and 3

## MATT. 13

(Penned by John)  
by Jesus)

(Said

1. Ephesus  
Sower and the 4 Soils

2. Smyrna  
Tares and Wheat

3. Pergamus  
Mustard Seed

4. Thyatira  
Woman and the Leaven

5. Sardis  
Treasure in the Field

6. Philadelphia  
Great Price

Pearl of

7. Laodicea  
Dragnet

The 7 parables are comparable to the 7 churches- with their problems and weaknesses.

For example, #3 the mustard seed parable is like the Pergamus church. In Israel mustard plants are all over the fields in spring. They are normally 2 or 3 feet high. The name in the Pergamus letter "queen of heaven" is a Jezebel label. Her perversion and evil-doing philosophy permeated this church. That seed grew into an unnatural mustard plant, so big that birds lodged in its branches. These birds represent the devil's ministers- the pulpits in Pergamus.

#4, the parable of the woman and the leaven, is like the church of Thyatira. The woman represents Jezebel (and her doctrine). This doctrine in Thyatira was horrible to God's because the leaven in the parable was put in the fellowship offering. Leaven stands for sin. The fellowship offering to God had to have no leaven in it to be acceptable. This church mixed idolatry in their worship of God.

#6, the pearl of great price parable is like the church of Philadelphia. Dr. Missler says this is a beautiful picture of this church. An oyster is unkosher, an unclean food, in Jewish law (in Leviticus). A pearl is the only jewel that is a response to irritation, grows by accretion, and is removed from its place of growth to become an item of the garment. This is a picture of the church being raptured.

Jesus wrote letters to the churches (witnessed by John

Paul wrote letters to churches also.



\*Spectacular reappearance of the King of Kings in His global empire

\*Internment of Satan in the abousso (abyss)

\*Millenium earth- the reign of Christ

\*Final insurrection and abolition of sin

\*New Heaven and New Earth, Jerusalem

#### SPECIAL PRAYERS

\*Our Church and Its Members  
Group

\*Stanley White Church and Its Members

\*LPC's Mission Study

\*L. H. Roberson

\*Agnes Atkins

\*Harrison West

\*Ann Currin

\*Kitty Perkinson

\*Stephen Shirk

\*Clyde Harris

\*Susan Lloyd

\*John Williams

\*Sandy Sandoval

\*Nancy Lawler

\*Wanda Clark

\*Believers Around the World

\*Our Service Folks Around the World

\*The Peace of Jerusalem

#### POINSETTIA MEMORIALS

Mrs. Charlotte Aycock in memory of her husband, Willie B. Aycock

Mrs. Jo Anne Daniels in honor of her family, the Perkinson family

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Clark in memory of their parents

Mr. and Mrs. John Clark in honor of their parents

Mrs. Sandy Perkinson in memory of her husband, Eddie Perkinson

Mr. and Mrs. David Seacrest in memory of their parents and in honor of their children and grandchildren

Mr. and Mrs. John Williams in memory of their son, Buck Williams

Mrs. Vada Oreshack in memory of her parents, Betty and Irvin Harris

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Birthdays:

12th- Rhonda Driver

18th- Philip Alston

Volunteers: Usher-	Flowers- Lynn Lesak	Fellowship-	
1	Mon.		New Year's Day
7	Sun.	9:30am	Worship with Claude Stayton
Was Canceled Due to Weather			
14	Sun.	9:30am	Worship with John Clark
15	Mon.		MLK Day
21	Sun.	9:30am	Worship with Michelle Moseley
22	Mon.	7:oopm	Session Meeting at LPC
28	Sun.	9:3oam	Worship with Nelson Johnston