



# The Power Driven Church Yeshua Writes to His Church

## The Church at Ephesus Loyal but Loveless

*Revelation 2:1-7*

### Why These Seven Churches?

*Revelation 1*

#### 1. The Words of Jesus *Rev. 1:9-20*

The letters to the churches are the ONLY recorded dictation from Jesus to us in the Bible.

*“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” and, “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”*  
*Revelation 1:11 (Jesus)*

#### 2. The Historical Setting

##### a. Asia Minor (Turkey)

All seven churches are near sea ports or along the main over-land trade routes. This was the link between Africa, Europe and Asia.

##### b. Greek and Roman Expansion

The influence of pagan religions, new thought and philosophy, and politics.

##### c. Guess Where Satan Lives? *Rev 2:12-13*

During this time—Satan had put this area at the top of his priority list—he chose to live in Pergamos. All the other churches and especially the two nearest; *Thyatira* and *Sardis* were effected by this.

##### d. The Passing of the Apostolic Era

John is the last remaining apostle of the original 12. The survival of the church may be at stake and the message to the seven churches is designed to encourage, warn and correct. And, Jesus still walks among His Church—and the message to the seven churches is as powerful for us today as it was 2000 years ago.

*If we don't know where we are going,  
any road will get us there.  
But if we have a destination—in this case a life  
lived to the glory of God—there is a well-marked  
way, the Jesus-revealed Way.”*

Eugene H. Peterson

#### 1. The City

- The Temple of Artemis (Diana), Goddess worship *Acts 19-20*
- 600 years before Jesus—the beginning of reason: *Heraclitus* (Logos)
- Port city under Roman power

#### 2. The Church *Acts 19-20*

- Founded by Apollos, Aquila and Priscilla *Acts 18:24-28*
- Paul spent two years there

#### 3. The Message *Rev. 2:1-7*

To the angel of the church: Messenger, minister or pastor? Jesus holds them in His hands and walks among the church!

##### a. The approval *2:2-3; 6*

- Enthusiasm
- Endurance
- Enlightenment

##### b. The Criticism *2:4*

*Left their first love...*

What was the “first” love: God, each other or the lost or all three?

##### c. The Warning and Remedy *2:5*

- Remember
- Repent
- Resume

*Or I will remove...*

##### d. The Appeal and Assurance *2:7*

The appeal is to the individual

He who has an ear...

To him who overcomes...

*The first place to be an overcomer  
is in the church—no matter what  
anyone else does—you be an  
overcomer and eat of the tree of  
life!*

