



The Power Driven Church

The Seven Churches of Revelation

Sardis: Dynamic but Dying

The Most Important Name In The World

A. The Character of God in the 7 Churches

Jesus calls HIMSELF these things when addressing the 7 churches.

*Holds the seven stars in his right hand;
Walks in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;
The first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;
Has the sharp sword with two edges; Eyes like unto a flame of fire; Feet are like fine brass; Has the seven Spirits of God; And the seven stars; Holy and true; Has the key of David; The Amen; Faithful and true witness; The beginning of the creation of God*

B. The Character of God in the "NAME"

There are a number of instances where no name of God is used, but simply the term "name" in reference to God as a point of focus to His character:

(Gen. 12:8; 13:4) (Ex. 33:19; 34:5) (Lev. 13:21; 22:2, 32) (Ex. 20:7; Deut. 5:11) (Deut. 18:5; 21:5) (Judges 13:18) (Gen. 21:33; 26:25)

In the New Testament we find the same, where "name" is used to focus on the character of Jesus:

(John 1:12) (Matt. 18:20) (John 14:13-14) (Matt. 10:22) (Acts 4:18; 5:28, 41; 10:43; 19:17) (Phil. 2:10-11)

C. The Character of God For His Name's Sake

Things done by, for and in the 'name' of the God!

(Psa 23:3) (Psa 31:3) (Psa 79:9) (Psa 106:8) (Psa 143:11) (Mat 10:22) (Mat 19:29) (Mat 24:9) (1Jo 2:12) (Rev 2:3)

D. The Character of God in Jesus' Name *Isaiah 9:6*

- Wonderful (or Wonderful Counselor)
- Counselor
- The mighty God
- The everlasting Father
- The Prince of Peace

1. Higher Than Any Other Name *Phil 2:9-11*

Includes all the names listed in Isa 9:6

2. What/Who Will Bow To The Name Of Jesus?

Anything that has a name bows to the name of Jesus Christ including sickness and disease.

Acts 3:1-7; 16

The Church at Sardis *Was Dedicated but Dead*

Revelation 3:1-6

1. The Character of Jesus 3:1

The emphasis seems to be upon watching and empowering through the Holy Spirit and the pastors-ministers over the church. (See Rev 5:6)

2. The Approval

There is NO approval for this church. And, there is no mention of persecution. Satan did not need to persecute them, they were already dead.

3. The Criticism

a. Living on past achievements :1

They had the appearance of life but in reality were dead—like the glory of Gideon's victory which was short lived. *Judges 8:27*

b. Never finish what is started :2

A lot of energy, planning, expense but never seeing a harvest.

4. The Advice

a. Look to the past :3

Remember: What you heard and received

b. Look to the present :2

Be watchful and become strong in the Lord
Hold fast and repent (:3)

c. Look to the future

There is hope: There are a few faithful left in Sardis. (:4)

- A Warning (:3) I am coming as a thief in the night! *1 Thes 5:2-4; 2 Pet 3:10.*

5. The Assurance

a. Walk: (reign) with Christ (:4)

Clothed in white...

b. Salvation: Name permanently recorded in the book of life. (:5)

c. Well Done: Public recognition before the throne (:5)