

The Church in Sardis:
Complete Before God…

Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God… **Revelations 3:2**

Letters to the Seven Churches…

- Ephesus (Revelation 2:1-7)
- Smyrna (Revelation 2:8-11)
- Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17)
- Thyatira (Revelation 2:18-29)
- Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)
- Philadelphia (Revelation 3:7-13)
- Laodicea (Revelation 3:14-22)

I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality… **Revelations 2:21**

and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works… **Rev 2:23**

The City of Sardis…

- Sardis was the capital of the ancient kingdom of Lydia. Known for its wealth and commerce. However, it experienced a series of downfalls including its capture by Cyrus the Great.
- Sardis was famous for its acropolis and the temple of Artemis.
- By the time of the early Christian church, Sardis had experienced a decline but remained a significant urban center. This affluent yet morally lax environment, influenced the church's spiritual condition.
- The church in Sardis is the only church that was not commended and is currently called Sart another place of ancient ruins.

The Church in Sardis… Revelations 3:1-6

1. “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘The words of him who has
the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. “‘I know your works. You have
the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. **2.** Wake up, and strengthen
what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in
the sight of my God. **3.** Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep
it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not
know at what hour I will come against you. **4.** Yet you have still a few names in
Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me
in white, for they are worthy. **5.** The one who conquers will be clothed thus in
white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will
confess his name before my Father and before his angels. **6.** He who has an
ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

The Church in Sardis… Revelations 3:1-6

- Jesus sees beyond the physical appearance.
- Many churches today are alive on the outside but dead on the inside.
- Spiritual death is when there is no fruit in our walk in Christ.
- We must desire for our works to be complete before God.
- There are still genuine followers of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- Glorious victory and eternal life await all who genuinely walk in Christ.

Ephesians 2:1… And you were dead in the trespasses and sins.
James 2:17… So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

Complete Before God…

- **Ephesians 2:8-10…** For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
- **1Corinthians 13:1-3…** If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Conclusion…

Let us be cautious of not being “saved souls but having a wasted life”. Rather than living a life marked by complacency, self satisfaction, and compromise with sin… Let our works be found complete in Christ as we live according to scripture, pursue holiness and are rooted in love.



Let us pray…