

Dear Church

Revelation 2:1 - 7

Without Love your Works are Worthless

First, almost any church – even a contemporary congregation – has more in common with one of these historic congregations than with the others. ... Even within each local church one can find these same problems and virtues. For example, some Christians are Ephesian Christians ... while others are Philadelphian Christians ... and so forth. ~Paige Patterson Revelation, Page 75.

1. Dear church, I am _____ you.

• Matthew 18:20

2. Dear church, I _____ and _____ your works.

A. Your labor.

B. Your perseverance.

C. You cannot bear those who are evil.

• Acts 17:11, 2 Corinthians 11:13-14

➤ If there is a conflict between man's word and God's word, whose word do I go with?

D. Your endurance.

E. You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans.



3. Dear church, I have a _____ with you.

A. You left your first love.

➤ Love God with all you are, all you have and all you control.

Orthodoxy and service are not enough. Christ wants believers' hearts as well as their hands and heads. ~John Walvoord, The Bible Knowledge Commentary Page 934.

➤ Does God have our hands, head and heart or just our hands and head?

4. Dear church, you need to _____ and _____.

A. Remember how far you have fallen. Luke 14:26

B. Repent how far you have fallen.

➤ Love God with all you are, all you have and all you control.

➤ Do I need to repent and return to my first love?

This command is to pursue all of the activities above: adjudication in matters of heresy, endorsement of moral good, perseverance, and copious labor for the proper reason – the love of Christ. It is the love of Christ that "compels us" (2 Cor 5:14). ~Paige Patterson Revelation, Page 86

Neither God nor his kingdom is endangered by the removal of a church, even one as successful and strategic as Ephesus. ~Paige Patterson Revelation, Page 87

He who has an ear, let him hear
what the Spirit says to the churches

What did I hear this morning?

How am I going to respond; hear or hear & obey?

