

STUDYING THE BOOK OF REVELATION
IN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Lesson 4 - To the Church in Ephesus - Revelation 2:1-7

Read the following verses in the New International Version or a translation of your choice. Then discuss the questions that follow. Questions should be studied by each individual before your discussion group meets.

Materials may be copied and used for Bible study purposes. Not to be sold.

REV 2:1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: [2] I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. [3] You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

REV 2:4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. [5] Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. [6] But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

REV 2:7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 4 - To the Church in Ephesus - Revelation 2:1-7

42. Who was addressing John with this message? (2:1)
43. What church was the subject of this letter from Jesus? (2:1)
44. How did the speaker in this passage identify Himself? (2:1)
45. Jesus praised the church at Ephesus for what deeds? (2:2-3)
46. What did Christ say about the Ephesian church's "staying power"? (2:3)
47. With what in the Ephesian church was Christ unsatisfied? (2:4)
48. What did Christ command the church at Ephesus to remember? (2:5)
49. How did the church at Ephesus need to change? (2:5)

50. What warning was given to the church if it failed to obey Christ's words? (2:5)
51. What did the church at Ephesus have in its favor? (2:6)
52. Whom else did Jesus want to benefit from this message? (2:7)
53. What final promise was made to "him who overcomes"? (2:7)

Lesson 5 - To the Church in Smyrna - Revelation 2:8-11

REV 2:8 "To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. [9] I know your afflictions and your poverty--yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. [10] Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life.

REV 2:11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 5 - To the Church in Smyrna - Revelation 2:8-11

54. Who was addressing John? (2:8)
55. What church was the subject of this letter from Jesus? (2:8)
56. How did the speaker in this passage identify Himself? (2:8)
57. What kind of contrast did Jesus draw? (2:9)
58. What did Christ say about some so-called Jews in Smyrna? (2:9)
59. What did Jesus say to comfort the Christians in Smyrna? (2:10)
60. What prophetic warning did Christ give to the church in Smyrna? (2:10)
61. How long would the church in Smyrna suffer? (2:10)
62. What challenge did Christ give His audience? (2:10)
63. What reward was promised the Christians at Smyrna if they hung on? (2:10)

64. Who else did Jesus say could benefit from the message to the church at Smyrna? (2:11)

65. What final promise was made to "him who overcomes"? (2:11)

Lesson 6 - To the Church in Pergamum - Revelation 2:12-17

REV 2:12 "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. [13] I know where you live--where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city--where Satan lives.

REV 2:14 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. [15] Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. [16] Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

REV 2:17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 6 - To the Church in Pergamum - Revelation 2:12-17

66. Who was addressing John? (2:12)

67. What church was the subject of this letter from Jesus? (2:12)

68. How did the speaker in this passage identify Himself? (2:12)

69. Where was the church of Pergamum said to be located? (2:13)

70. What good deeds had the church at Pergamum done? (2:13)

71. For what did Jesus praise the people of the church at Pergamum? (2:13)

72. How did Balaam (of Old Testament times) influence the believers at Pergamum? (2:14)

73. What bad influences or teachings had infiltrated the church at Pergamum? (2:14-15)

74. What were the believers at Pergamum doing wrong? (2:14-15)
75. What command did Christ give to this church in light of its dangerous direction? (2:16)
76. What stern warning was issued for those who would not obey Christ? (2:17)
77. Who else did Jesus say could benefit from the message to the church at Pergamum? (2:17)
78. What did Jesus promise to "him who overcomes"? (2:17)
79. What would be inscribed on the white stone received by "him who overcomes"? (2:17)

Lesson 7 - To the Church in Thyatira - Revelation 2:18-29

REV 2:18 "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. [19] I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

REV 2:20 Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. [21] I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. [22] So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. [23] I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds. [24] Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): [25] Only hold on to what you have until I come.

REV 2:26 To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations--

REV 2:27 `He will rule them with an iron scepter;
he will dash them to pieces like pottery'* --

just as I have received authority from my Father. [28] I will also give him the morning star. [29] He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Lesson 7 - To the Church in Thyatira - Revelation 2:18-29

80. Who was telling John to write down this vision? (2:18)
81. What church was the subject of this letter from Jesus? (2:18)
82. How did the speaker in this passage identify Himself? (2:18)
83. How did Christ address the church at Thyatira? (2:18)
84. What did Christ know about the church at Thyatira? (2:19)
85. For what did Christ praise the church at Thyatira? (2:19)
86. For what did Christ chastise the church at Thyatira? (2:20)
87. How did Christ show patience? (2:21)
88. What judgments did the Son of God pronounce on the one He called Jezebel? (2:22-23)
89. What challenge did Christ give to those who resisted Jezebel's teaching and sinful behavior? (2:24-25)
90. What two gifts were promised to "him who overcomes"? (2:26-28)
91. How did Jesus refer to God? (2:28)
92. In addition to the church at Thyatira, who else was commanded to pay heed to this message? (2:29)