

## Revelation 2- The 7 Churches

- At the time of Revelation's writing (AD 95-100) there may have been over 100 local, separate churches in existence in the world.
- Of all of them, Christ chose 7 to specifically speak to and to represent all of the others in existence and, quite possibly, to come in the future.
- WHY?
  - Contemporary Purpose- he had a direct message to those 7 specific churches
  - Composite Purpose- the messages are meant to apply to all churches of all ages
  - Chronological Purpose- the characteristics of these churches are a prophetic preview of 7 great periods in Christianity from Pentecost until the Rapture

### The 7 Churches

- 1) **Ephesus** (AD 30-100)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 2) **Smyrna** (AD 100-313)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 3) **Pergamos** (AD 314-590)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 4) **Thyatira** (AD 590-1517)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 5) **Sardis** (AD 1517-1700)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 6) **Philadelphia** (AD 1700-1900)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church
- 7) **Laodicea** (AD 1900-Rapture)      \* Name means \_\_\_\_\_  
The \_\_\_\_\_ Church

# The Church of Ephesus

## 1) The Counselor 2:1

## 2) The Commendation 2:2-3, 6 “I know thy works....” (told to each of the 7 churches)

- a. Evangelistic
- b. Patient
- c. \_\_\_\_\_
- d. Orthodox
- e. Persecuted but \_\_\_\_\_
- f. Democratic

## 3) The Condemnation 2:4 They served out of \_\_\_\_\_ not love

## 4) The Counsel 2:5

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ - Heads given to Christ
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ - Hearts given to Christ
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ - Hands given to Christ
  - If this isn't done, the “candlestick” will be removed – The church is gone!
  - The individual believer has eternal security, but the physical “church” does not!
  - This church was overrun by Muslims and is no more!!

## 5) The Challenge 2:7

- Overcome – Compare with 1 John 5:4-5
- The “tree of life” makes its first Bible appearance since the Garden of Eden