
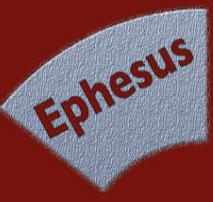






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|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | 2:1-7 | 2:8-11 | 2:12-17 | 2:18-29 | 3:1-6 | 3:7-13 | 3:14-22 |
| JESUS among the Lampstands | | holds 7 stars & walks among 7 lampstands | the first and last, who died and came to life again | holds the sharp double-edged sword | eyes of blazing fire & feet of burnished bronze | holds 7 spirits of God and 7 stars | holy and true; holds key of David | the Amen, faithful witness, ruler of God's creation |
| I know your deeds | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hard work & perseverance, intolerance of evil & falsehood hate Nicolaitan practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> afflictions & poverty slander of synagogue of Satan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> where you live (Satan's throne) faithfulness (even to death – e.g. Antipas) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> deeds, love & service perseverance doing more than at first | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> have kept word and not denied – Satan's synagogue will acknowledge endured patiently | |
| But I have this against you... | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> you have forsaken first love | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers like Balaam – idolatry & sexual immorality Teachers of Nicolaitans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tolerate 'prophets' Jezebel – sexual immorality & idols she's had time to repent, so... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reputation of life but actually dead deeds not complete in my sight | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lukewarm not rich but pitiful, blind, naked I rebuke those I love: |
| Repent... let him who has an ear hear what the Spirit says to the churches | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> do what you did at first or lampstand removed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> don't fear suffering (prison, persecution 10 days, death) be faithful (& receive crown) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> repent or I will fight with sword of mouth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cast her on bed of suffering (adulterers also & children die) God searches hearts and repays Hold on to gospel not jezebel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wake up Strengthen what's dying Remember & Obey what heard Or I will come (like a thief in night) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold on to your crown (I'm coming soon) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repent Buy gold, clothes & salve (to overcome poverty, nakedness and blindness) Open door (to eat with Christ) |
| For all who overcome... | | right to eat from tree of life in paradise | not hurt by the second death | I will give hidden manna, white stone with new hidden name | I will give authority over nations (Ps2:9) & the morning star | a few who have not soiled – dressed in white and in book of life | a pillar in temple – never leave; name of God, city & new name | right to sit with me on my throne (just as he did with Father) |
| 7 Virtues for ALL churches | | Love Jesus | Endure Persecution | Teach Soundly | Don't tolerate evil | Spiritually Alive | Wait Patiently | Be Humbly Dependent |

“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations – *‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; they shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’* – as I also have received from My father;

- Italicized section is from Psalm 2:9 – Psalm 2 is a Messianic Psalm.
- Christ reigns as Lord of lords and King of kings (1 Tim 6:14-15)
- Jesus shares His reign with His people. This fact is documented in 2 Tim. 2:12, Rom 5:17



“and I will
give him the
morning
star”

Morning Star – a star bright enough
to be seen in the early morning. A
herald that dawn is near.

Jesus is encouraging the churches to stay strong because they will conquer the difficulties ahead, and eventually, a new day of peace and success will dawn for them if they do.



JULIUS CAESAR

48 BC – 44 BC

- Never officially took the title of 'Emperor'
- Deified after his death (though also claimed it while alive)
- Killed by Brutus and Cassius



AUGUSTUS (OCTAVIAN)

31 BC – 14 AD

- Nephew and adopted son of Julius
- First official emperor
- Augustus was previously a name associated with gods and religion
- Ushered in the golden age of Rome
- General reluctant to accept deification

TIBERIUS

14 AD – 37 AD



- Adopted stepson of Augustus
- Expelled foreign cults from Rome, including the Jews from military service
- Disliked because position was unearned, but generally considered to be competent



CALIGULA

37 AD – 41 AD

- Adopted grandson of Tiberius
- Became mentally unstable after an illness
- Embraced role as a god and replaced Greek god statues' heads with his own bust
- Ill-tempered and cruel
- Attempted to set up statue of himself in the Jerusalem temple (died before it happened)



CLAUDIUS

41 AD – 54 AD

- Uncle of Caligula
- Bad at picking wives
- Restore Jews rights, but...

“And he found a certain Jew named Aquila, a man of Pontus by race, lately come from Italy, with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to depart from Rome: and he came unto them.” (Acts 18:2)



NERO

54 AD – 68 AD

- Great nephew of Claudius
- Originally lead by Seneca and Burrus to moderate leadership
- Eventually started killing people out of cruelty and suspicion
- Statue of himself out of bronze as the sun god
- Localized persecution of Christians for Roman fire

GALBA, OTHO, VITELLIUS

68 AD – 69 AD





VESPASIAN

69 AD – 79 AD

- Attained the throne through military might
- Left his son Titus to destroy Jerusalem
- Attempted restoration to state of nation under Augustus rule



TITUS

79 AD – 81 AD

- Son of Vespasian
- Destroyer of Jerusalem in 70 AD
- Continue to attempt to establish his father's restorative vision for Rome



DOMITIAN

82 AD – 96 AD

- Second son of Vespasian
- Suspicious, greedy, and cruel
- Took on the title 'Lord God' in all writing and conversation
- First to be noted as decreeing persecution of Christians throughout the nation
- In Asia in particular, the worship of Domitian was readily

PLINY TO TRAJAN



Written in 111 AD

1. Do not hunt down Christians.
2. If they are brought, punish them.
3. Pardon if they offered prayers to the gods.
4. Do not accept anonymous charges.
5. Praise him for his attention to the “issue” of Christians

A letter determining how to deal with Christians

“After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven”

The great conflict begins with a look at heaven

Rainbow = faithfulness
(Gen 9:13)

One on the throne is Father
because He receives
worship.

jasper & sardius are
opposites. One clear – the
other Red.

Seven lamps = Holy Spirit

24 elders are victorious
humans

4 living beings are angelic
creatures/forces (Ezek 1 & 2)

CHAPTER 4 IS THE THRONE SCENE
CHAPTER 5 INTRODUCES THE LAMB