

Sermon Series: Revelation - Jesus Revealed

Sermon Title: Ephesus: Strong... but Missing the Main Thing

Scripture: Revelation 2:1-7

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### INTRODUCTION

Note: On the Lord's Day, John was filled with the Spirit and the glorified Christ revealed Himself to John and commands him to write of the things that are.

Revelation 1:19

Note: The first act of business is addressing the condition of the seven churches.

Revelation 1:11

I. The City of Ephesus

Revelation 2:1b -

II. The Church in Ephesus

Revelation 2:1a -

Acts 18-20

III. The Correspondent to Ephesus

Revelation 2:1c -

IV. The Lord's Commendation to Ephesus

**Revelation 2:2-3; 6 -**

- 1. Jesus begins by acknowledging the Ephesian believer's work and toil. (v.2a)
- 2. The Ephesians believers <u>persevered</u> through trying times. (v. 2a)
- 3. Another praiseworthy aspect of the Ephesian believers was they did not tolerate evil men.

Matt. 18:15; Eph. 4:27

4. The Ephesian believers possessed spiritual discernment.

Matt. 7:15; Acts 20:28-31; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; 2 John 7;10

5. Lastly Jesus adds a final commendation that the Ephesian believers <u>hate the deeds</u> of the Nicolaitans.

## V. The Lord's Condemnation to Ephesus

#### Revelation 2:4 -

Despite its outwardly praiseworthy elements, the Lord Jesus Christ had spotted a <u>fatal flaw</u> in the heart of the Ephesian church.

Eph. 1:15; 3:17-19; 6:23

## VI. The Lord's Correction to Ephesus

#### Revelation 2:5 -

- 1. Remember from where they had fallen.
- 2. Repent in a deliberate rejection of their sins.
- 3. Restore the deeds they did at first.

## VII. The Lord's Counsel to Ephesus

#### Revelation 2:7 -

# Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application...

- 1. What does Jesus commend of the Ephesian church?
- 2. What is the diagnosis that Jesus has for the Ephesian church and what is the solution for them?
- 3. What dangers are there in possessing everything, BUT not having the main thing (love for Christ)?
- 4. What did your original love for Christ look like? Go back and remember.
- 5. Compare/contrast that original love for Christ with your current relationship with Christ. What observations would you make? Are there places where you have taken a wrong turn or have things in the wrong order? What do you need to do to return to the nature of those original works that flowed from your first connection with Christ and love for Christ?