

**RECALIBRATE**  
CHRIST SPEAKS TO HIS CHURCH

— PART 2 —  
**Ephesus: A Church That Fell Out Of Love**

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**JESUS**  
**Calling**

*Christ calls His church to repent, and to realign with His values and vision for what the church should be.*

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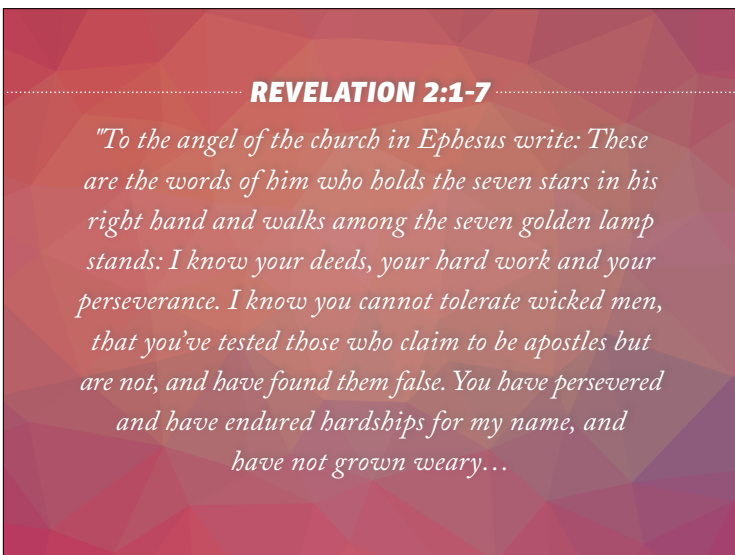
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**REVELATION 2:1-7**

*"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 lamp stands: I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you've tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary..."*

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## REVELATION 2:1-7

*...Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. 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. But you have this in your favor: You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 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."*

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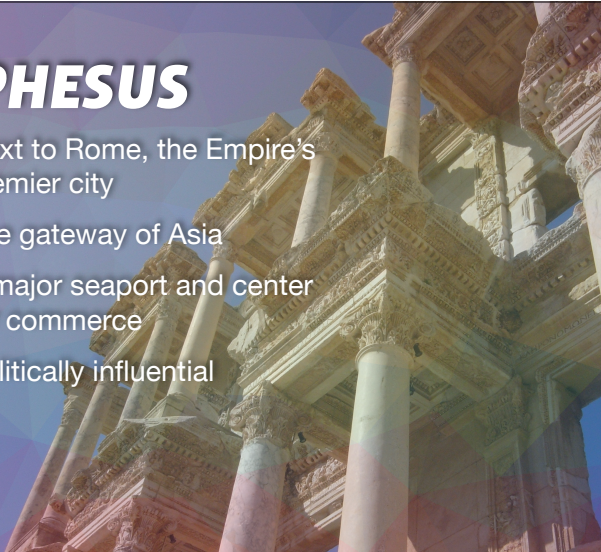
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## EPHESUS

- \* Next to Rome, the Empire's premier city
- \* The gateway of Asia
- \* A major seaport and center for commerce
- \* Politically influential



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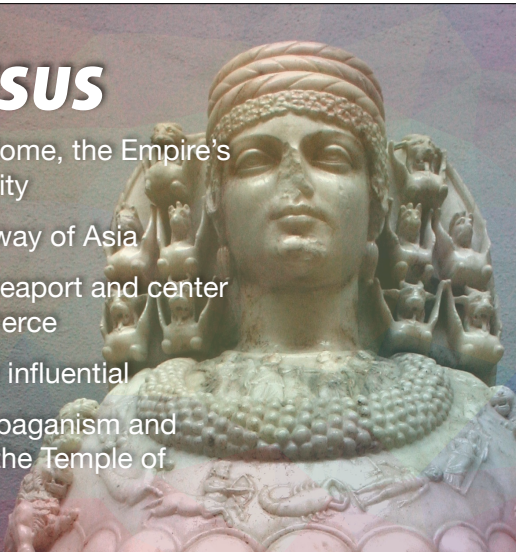
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## EPHESUS

- \* Next to Rome, the Empire's premier city
- \* The gateway of Asia
- \* A major seaport and center for commerce
- \* Politically influential
- \* A hub of paganism and home to the Temple of Diana



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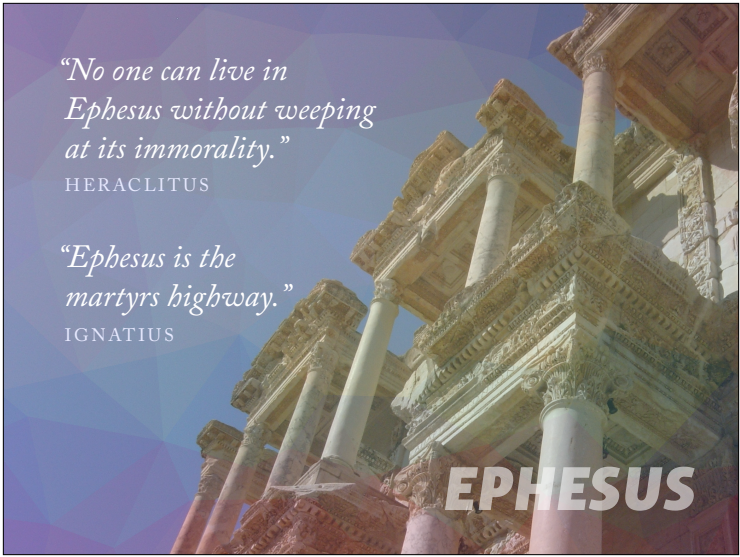
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*“No one can live in  
Ephesus without weeping  
at its immorality.”*

HERACLITUS

*“Ephesus is the  
martyrs highway.”*

IGNATIUS

# EPHESUS

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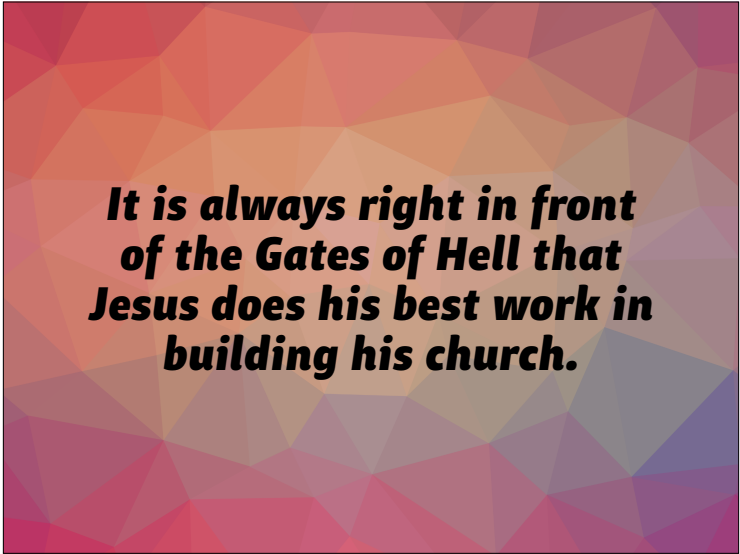
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**It is always right in front  
of the Gates of Hell that  
Jesus does his best work in  
building his church.**

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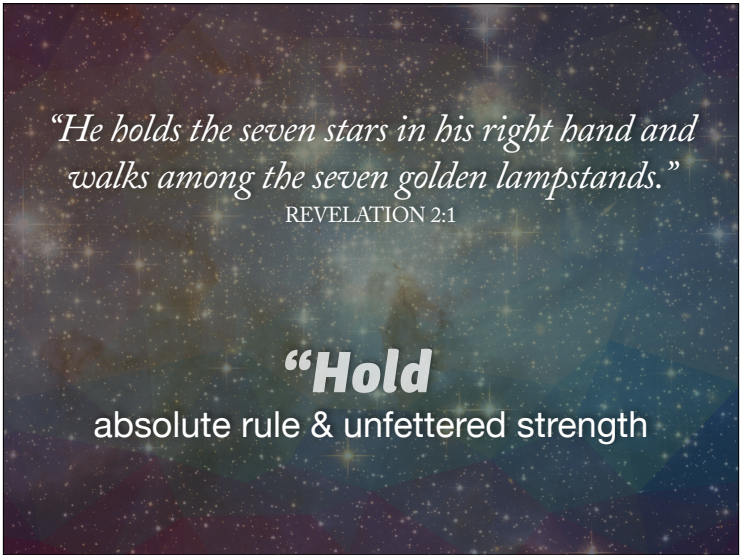
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*“He holds the seven stars in his right hand and  
walks among the seven golden lampstands.”*

REVELATION 2:1

**“Hold**

absolute rule & unfettered strength

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**As we submit to Christ's rule,  
nothing can ever go wrong;  
nothing can take us down!**

*"No one can snatch them from me."  
JOHN 10:28*

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**Excellence in EPHESUS**



**Jesus praises  
their effort.**

*"I know your deeds, your hard work."  
REVELATION 2:2*

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*"Whatever you do, be it in word or  
deed, do it all in the name of the  
Jesus... working at it with all your  
heart, as working for the Lord, not  
man... It's Christ you are serving."*

*COLOSSIANS 3:17, 23-24*

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**Excellence in EPHESUS**



**Jesus praises  
their endurance.**

*“I know your perseverance...you’ve endured hardships  
for my name, and haven’t grown weary.”*

REVELATION 2:2-3

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**Excellence in EPHESUS**



**Jesus praises  
their exclusivity.**

*“You cannot tolerate wicked men; you have tested  
those who claim to be apostles but are not,  
and have found them false.”*

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**Constant Barrage of  
False Apostles**

*—then & now*

- ❖ They turn grace into legalism.
- ❖ They twist grace into license.
- ❖ They turn the grace of giving into reckless charity.

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**Error in EPHESUS**

*“I have this against you:  
you’ve lost your first love.”*

REVELATION 2:4

**Hard work, patient endurance and  
doctrinal orthodoxy can’t replace  
passionate love for Jesus Christ!**

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**“First Love”**

organic devotion and sustained enthusiasm for

1. the PERSON of Jesus
2. the PURPOSES of Jesus
3. the PEOPLE of Jesus

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*“If you do not repent, I will come  
to you and remove your  
lampstand from its place.”*

REVELATION 2:5

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the  
**REMEDY**  
for LOST LOVE

**REMEMBER**

*“Remember the height from which you  
have fallen.”* REVELATION 2:5

Memory is often the first step  
on the way back

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the  
**REMEDY**  
for LOST LOVE

**REPENT**

*“Remember the height from which you  
have fallen. Repent...”* REVELATION 2:5

The hardest yet best thing about repentance  
is acceptance of personal responsibility;  
admission that the fault is mine.

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the  
**REMEDY**  
for LOST LOVE

**RETURN**

*“Repent and do the things you  
did at first.”* REVELATION 2:5

A life changed and restored by our effort  
in cooperation with God’s grace.

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# A Call To LOVE —A Call To HATE

*“You have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.”* REVELATION 2:6

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# A Call To LOVE —A Call To HATE



We have been called to love the sinner but hate the sin, which Jesus modeled.



We must reject the notion that a less demanding Jesus is a more appealing Jesus.

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*If we embrace modern Nicolaitanism, the world will change Christianity and not Christianity the world.*

**Believers who are not prepared to be different are the most dangerous heretic.**

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# Christ's **PROMISE** to **Overcomers**

*"You will eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God."* REVELATION 2:7

There is no greater paradise than enjoying the presence of Him who walks among the candlesticks.

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PART 2

**Ephesus: A Church That Fell Out Of Love**

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