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**REVELATION 3:1-6**

*<sup>1</sup> To the church leader in Sardis write: These are the words of him who has God's seven-fold Spirit and who holds the seven stars. I know your works; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup> Wake up! Strengthen what little remains; it is about to die, for your works are incomplete in God's sight. <sup>3</sup> Remember what you first believed: obey it and repent! If you don't, I will come against you, unexpectedly, like a thief.*

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**REVELATION 3:1-6**

*<sup>4</sup> Yet some in Sardis have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white; they are worthy. <sup>5</sup> To those overcomers, I will never blot out their names from the book of life; I will recognize them before my Father and his angels. <sup>6</sup> He who has an ear, hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*

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*“You have a reputation of being alive, but you’re dead.”*

## **SARDIS WAS THE CHURCH OF THE LIVING DEAD**

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### **SARDIS: THE PERPETUAL REMINDER**

*The greatest danger to a church is not **hostility, heresy or immorality**, but **complacency**.*

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### **SARDIS**

- A thriving metropolis
- The capital of Lydia
- Famous for wealth, beauty and security

→ **But unguarded!**



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Fatal Infections of the  
**UNGUARDED CHURCH**



**Infatuation with past glory.**

*When the words, “we used to” are often on the corporate lips of a church, it is on its way to the spiritual morgue.*

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*“Most religious movements begin with a man, then the movement becomes a machine, and finally it turns into a monument.”*

VANCE HAVNER

**GOD ALONE**

**IS WORTHY OF GLORY,  
FAME AND WORSHIP!**

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Fatal Infections of the  
**UNGUARDED CHURCH**



**Aversion to steps of faith.**

*When a church refuses to untether from its traditions to reach unreached people or next generations or changing contexts, it is on its way to the spiritual morgue.*

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Fatal Infections of the  
**UNGUARDED CHURCH**



**Loss of missional fervor.**

*When a church forgets why it exists—to take the Gospel to the lost, near and far—it is on its way to the spiritual morgue.*

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**CURE FOR THE SARDIS VIRUS**

**EXAMINATION**

*“Wake up!” (VERSE 2A)*

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**CURE FOR THE SARDIS VIRUS**

**EXAMINATION**

*“Wake up!” (VERSE 2A)*

**MEDICATION**

*“Reinforce what little remains—even that’s about to die.” (VERSE 2B)*

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## CURE FOR THE SARDIS VIRUS

### EXAMINATION

*“Wake up!” (VERSE 2A)*

### MEDICATION

*“Reinforce what little remains—even that’s about to die.” (VERSE 2B)*

### IMPLEMENTATION

*“Remember what you first believed and obey it!” (VERSE 2B)*

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## CURE FOR THE SARDIS VIRUS

### EXAMINATION

*“Wake up!” (VERSE 2A)*

### MEDICATION

*“Reinforce what little remains—even that’s about to die.” (verse 2b)*

### IMPLEMENTATION

*“Remember what you first believed and obey it!” (VERSE 3A)*

### RECALIBRATION

*“Repent!” (VERSE 3B)*

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*“They will walk with me, dressed in white; they are worthy. To those overcomers, I will never blot out their names from the book of life; I will recognize them before my Father and his angels.”*

VS 4-5

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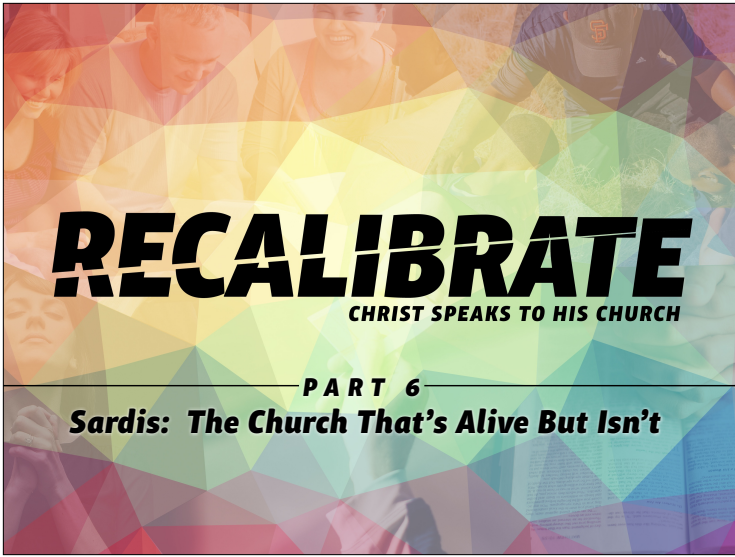
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