



Revelation Chapter 2:1-17

When the Spirit Speaks to the Church

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

This is not merely historical prophecy—it is a **Spirit-led diagnosis**.

CHURCH 1: EPHESUS: Busy, But Burning Out

Text: Revelation 2:1–7

Big Idea: A church can be full of truth and activity yet empty of **passion** for Christ.

The church at Ephesus was doing everything right, except the one thing that mattered most. They were organized, discerning, and disciplined. But Jesus says, *“I have this against you...”* It is possible to be **right** and still be **cold**.

Jesus praises their works, perseverance, and doctrinal purity. Yet He says, *“You have left your first love.”* Notice they didn’t **lose** it; they **left** it. They had left their first love, and *everything looked great on the outside*.

Pentecostal Application: Danger of substituting manifestation for relationship. Pentecost without passion becomes **routine**. Structure without Spirit becomes **religion**.

Christ’s Command

1. Remember – where love was real
2. **Repent** – turn back
3. Return – do the first works

Action: Call people back to prayer that lingers, worship that **costs** something, and love that burns again

CHURCH 2: SMYRNA: Faithful Under Fire

Text: Revelation 2:8–11

Big Idea: Suffering does not **silence** the Spirit—it **refines** the church.

The church at Smyrna lived in poverty. But Jesus says they were **rich**. Jesus says: “*I know your tribulation and your poverty—but you are rich.*” They were faithful in persecution. They were poor on earth, wealthy in **heaven**.

Pentecostal Application The Spirit is not only poured out in **celebration**, but in suffering.

- Fire **refines** gold
- Pressure reveals faith
- Persecution **purifies** worship

We live in a culture that **avoids** suffering. Jesus prepares His church to **endure**, not escape.

Christ’s Promise “*Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.*”

Action: Believers are called to courage, endurance, and Spirit-filled boldness.

CHURCH 3: PERGAMUM: When Truth Is Negotiable

Text: Revelation 2:12–17

Big Idea: A church can confess Christ publicly while compromising **privately**.

Pergamum lived where Satan’s throne was, and there was cultural darkness everywhere. They confessed Christ but **tolerated** compromise. Jesus commends their loyalty but rebukes their tolerance of false teaching. Truth was acknowledged but not **applied**.

Pentecostal Application Gifts without **holiness** lead to deception.

- Power must be governed by **truth**.
- Anointing does not **excuse** compromise.
- Spiritual gifts must operate within **moral** obedience.

Cultural Relevance: Today’s culture **pressures** the church to redefine sin, silence conviction and redefine holiness as hate.

Christ’s Promise “*To him who overcomes... I will give hidden manna.*”

Secret **provision** flows from public **obedience**.

Action: Christ calls believers to repentance, renewed **holiness**, and courage to stand distinct.