

OUTLINE OF REVELATION

Cf. Revelation 1:19

I. The things which you have seen (1)

- A. Prologue 1:1-3
- B. Greeting and Praise 1:4-8
- C. Vision of Christ the Judge 1:9-20

II. The things which are (2-3)

Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor

- A. To Ephesus 2:1-7
- B. To Smyrna 2:8-11
- C. To Pergamom 2:12-17
- D. To Thyatira 2:18-29
- E. To Sardis 3:1-6
- F. To Philadelphia 3:7-13
- G. To Laodicea 3:14-22

III. The things which will take place after this

(4-22)

Revelation 2 and 3--

“Prophetically the history of the church through the centuries.”

Ephesus	1 st Century/Apostolic Age New Testament Church
Smyrna	2 nd -3 rd Century Church of the persecution Church in suffering
Pergamos	4 th - 6 th Century Popular and politically powerful
Thyatira	7 th - 16 th Century Dark Ages
Sardis	15 th - 17 th Century Church of the Reformation
Philadelphia	18 th - 20 th Century Church of missionary activity and evangelical power
Laodicea	20 th Century

Christ the Judge

Chapter 1 --Character of the Judge

Chapters 2-3 --Judge in the midst of the churches

Chapters 4-19 --Judge in the midst of Israel and the nations

Chapter 20 --Two resurrections and Judgment at the Great White Throne

Letters to 7 Churches

SARDIS 3:1-6
Dead/Dying

All-sufficient Christ
Chief Shepherd

PHILADELPHIA 3:7-13
Faithful, though weak

Omnipotent Christ,
the Judge
Utterly Sovereign One

LAODICEA 3:14-22
Lukewarm

Living Word of God
Head of the church
Head of the New
Creation

THE SEVEN CHURCHES / *Revelation 2:1–3:22*

The seven churches were located on a major Roman road. A letter carrier would leave the island of Patmos (where John was exiled), arriving first at Ephesus. He would travel north to Smyrna and Pergamum, turn southeast to Thyatira, and continue on to Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea—in the exact order in which the letters were dictated.

