

Revelation Study
To The Church At Ephesus
Revelation 2:1-7

- I. Jesus: Lord of the Stars and Lampstands (1)
 - A. Seven stars = seven angels
 - 1. Angels are likely the seven pastors
 - 2. Pastors are to “equip the saints” for the ministry
 - B. The lampstands = churches, as the light of the world
 - C. This is significant to the exhortation
- II. Encouragement and Exhortation (2-6)
 - A. Encouragement 1 – Intolerant of wickedness and false teaching
 - 1. Have not grown weary in these two things
 - 2. Have done these things for “His name’s sake”
 - B. Exhortation – I have this against you: left your first love
 - 1. Not necessarily a general love for Jesus (cf. vs. 3)
 - 2. Not necessarily a love for one another (cf. vs. 2)
 - 3. Likely – a loss of love for “the world” – the chief recipients of the light of the church
 - a. Hence, the removal of the lampstand/light
 - b. The church ceases to be the church if it is only concerned

with internal doctrinal purity and
not external witness bearing

- C. Encouragement 2 – Hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans
 - 1. A group of people that taught it was acceptable to embrace certain aspects of the idolatrous culture of Ephesus
 - 2. The temple culture of Ephesus was a key aspect of economic prosperity for the society
 - 3. The church at Ephesus stood against the temptation to incorporate cultural and economic idolatry into the work of the church
- III. To Him Who Overcomes (7)
 - A. Overcome – prevail, conquer
 - B. Eat of the tree of life
 - 1. Communion with God
 - 2. Healing of the nations
 - 3. Cf. Revelation 22L2, 14, 19
- IV. He Who Has Ears To Hear
 - A. Spiritual insight
 - B. Will we be oriented toward the things of Jesus or of ourselves