

Study 3: Revelation 2:1-7

EPHESUS

A. The Characteristics of the City: The secular state

Ephesus was:

1. Commercially supreme
2. Politically privileged
3. Religiously pagan (Acts 19:23-41)
4. Morally corrupt

Yet here Paul founded a church!

Here John lived!

Here Christianity flourished!

B. The Condition of the Church: The spiritual state

1. The DESCRIPTION of the Speaker

See 1:16, 13

> Calculated to encourage. He holds them in His right hand and walks in their midst. 2:1

> Calculated to warn. The power that upholds them can also remove them. 2:5

2. The REVELATION

“*I know...*” used commendably. 2:2-3

3. The COMMENDATION

2:2 Sufficient in works – hard work.

Perseverance 2:2-3 and discernment 2:2.

4. The CONDEMNATION

2:4 Forsaken your first love.

Still working hard – but not as at the first. 2:4-5

5. The CAUTION

> a warning of the removal of the lampstand. 2:5

> a counsel to remember

> a counsel to repent

> a counsel to return

> a counsel to repeat. 2:5

6. The EXPECTATION of reward for the 'Overcomer'

To eat NOT the food offered to idols, but of the Tree of Life and to enjoy God's presence in Paradise. 2:7

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus Christ: "*Take heed how you hear.*"
