

EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

“BEING A RESTORED HUMAN”



“JESUS SPEAKS TO CHURCHES”

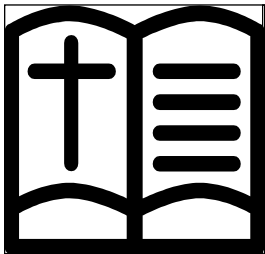
REVELATION 3:1-6 Part 6

I. THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD

- A. *Jesus chooses the churches He does to warn the churches of the rest of the age the direction it is going*
- B. *It is the illuminating, life-giving Spirit of God that is to be the energy and power of its existence; but He has been disinvited and neglected, substituted with methods of man and décor unbecoming the lowly, humble Jesus of the gospels Isa 11:2; Mt 8:20*
- C. *Sardis is the age of wealth and elaboration; this is the church of the Middle Ages; Gothic cathedrals; scholasticism; Greek and Latin wisdom and philosophy; the Crusades; chivalry; classical education; power is in the human mind not the Spirit of God*

II. THE REPUTATION OF BEING ALIVE

- A. *Jesus with the 7 Spirits of God declares them dead Isa 11:2; Zech 4:1-10*
- B. *Unfinished works - Works done to look good*
 - 1. *Scribes and Pharisees - Mat 23:1-5*
 - 2. *Works without the Spirit of God*
- C. *Faithful remnant - “...who have not defiled their garments...” garments given by the gospel!*
 - 1. *Adam and Eve after disobedience*
 - 2. *Scribes and Pharisees - Matt 23:1-5*
 - 3. *Jesus robbing the faithful - Rev 3:4b—5*

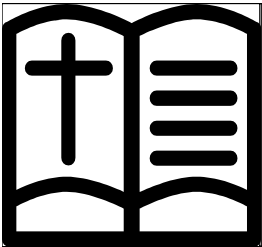


- D. Ceremony, ritual and costume; the gospel is getting lost; salvation is found in sacraments not simple faith; reformation, if not complete overhauling, is desperately needed but those in power could not see it nor did they want the loss of power
- E. The church had taken over the political power of Rome; it WAS the new Roman empire of the West; in the east, the Roman empire had become the Byzantine empire and was about to be overcome with the Muslim invasion in what would become the Muslim Caliphate; this is also the Islamic Golden Age

III. JESUS' COUNSEL TO THOSE WHO COULD HEAR

- A. Be watchful - open your eyes to the struggle; the power of the gospel (Spirit) is being replaced with the power of politics and philosophy
- B. What remains of the gospel is about to die - strengthen it
 - 1. Remember how you have received and heard - It was not in philosophy or education but in Holy Spirit conviction. You are distracted with the intellect.
 - 2. Hold fast and repent! Treasure it; keep it; change your mind about its importance
- C. Jesus IS coming to them! If they are not counting the gospel important, He will come in total surprise to hold them accountable.

It will take great courage to be an overcomer but it will come with great reward. Do we have our ears open?



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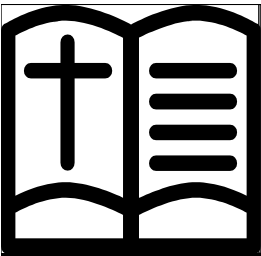
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