

**5. The Sardis Church—“Spiritually Dead, Steeped in Tradition”**

- Action: “Wake-up! Repent, or I will come”
- The Question: Are you experiencing supernatural life change or simply going through religious motions? (Jn 8:32)



**6. The Philadelphia Church—“Dependent, Faithful, Loving”**

- Action: Jesus’ reward for love and purity is protection
- The Question: Are you desperately dependent on Christ and seeing open doors to minister for Him? (James 5:16)



**7. The Church of Laodicea—“Deceived and Disgustingly Self-Sufficient”**

- Action: “Repent, I am about to vomit you out of My mouth”
- The Question: Is Jesus living in you and is His Word the #1 priority and passion of your life? (Rev 3:20)



**Will You Be Ready  
When He Comes Again?**

Revelation 2-3

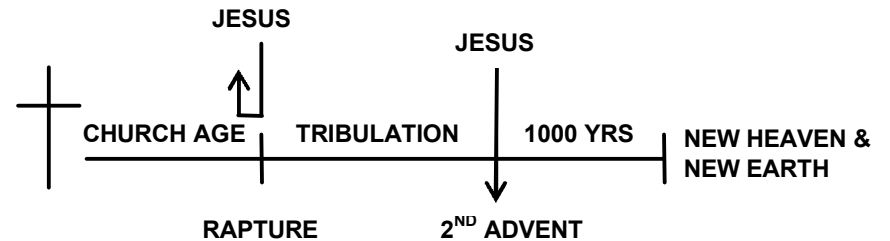
**Introduction**

“Watch out that no one deceives you...about My coming”

- Jesus (Matt 24:4-5)

**When is Jesus Coming Again?**

- Jesus’ Teaching—Matt 24, 25
- Paul’s Further Explanation— 1 Thes 4:13-17
- A Common Misunderstanding



- **Summary** – Jesus is coming for His church at \_\_\_\_\_!  
– Jesus is coming to judge the world after \_\_\_\_\_!

# JESUS' WARNING: How to KNOW if You are READY for His Coming

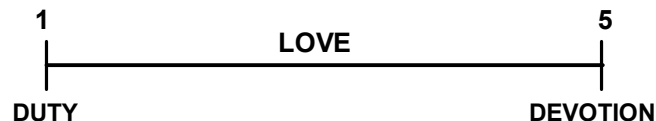
## I. The Structure of Jesus' Warning to the Church

1. *The Commission*: "To the angel of the church at... write..."
2. *The Character*: "These things saith he that...", followed by an allusion to the introductory portrait.
3. *The Commendation*: "I know thy works...", with such favorable comments as the Lord can give.
4. *The Condemnation*: "But I have against thee...", with a list of adverse criticisms in sequence.
5. *The Correction*: varied injunctions couched in a sharp imperative mood.
6. *The Call*: "He that hath an ear..." This part is uniform in all seven letters, except that in the last four it takes the seventh place in order rather than the sixth.
7. *The Challenge*: "To him that overcometh..." Each of the letters has a promise for the overcomer who rises above the temptations and perils besetting his particular church.<sup>1</sup>

## II. An Overview of Jesus' Warning to the 7 Churches

### 1. The Ephesian Church—"Lost its First Love"

- Action: "Remember, repent, repeat"
- The Question: Have you lost your first love? (Matt 22)



### 2. The Smyrna Church—"Faithful in Suffering"

- Action: "Fear not, be faithful, crown coming"
- The Question: Are you willing to stand up and stand alone for Jesus when it means rejection, loss, or suffering? (Rom 1:16)



### 3. The Pergamum Church—"Sexual Immorality Tolerated"

- Action: "Repent or I will make war on you"
- The Question: Are you above reproach in thought, word, and deed with regard to sexual purity? (Eph 5:3)



### 4. The Thyratira Church—"False Teaching Tolerated"

- Action: "Repent or receive dire consequences now"
- The Question: Are you a regular student of God's Word, able to discern truth from error? (Acts 17:11)



<sup>1</sup> *Interpreting Revelation* by Merrill C. Tenney, pg. 51