



May 5, 2024  
Worship Service  
Pastor Bruce Adrian  
WeAreLifeBridge.com

## Dear Church: 7 Letters to 7 Churches

Lesson Five • Revelation 2:1-7  
**Dear Church in Ephesus**

### Dear Church in Ephesus

You have everything, but you've lost the main thing—your FIRST LOVE.

Though Jesus is pleased with our obedience, He is jealous for hearts that maintain a devoted love for Him that fuels good works.

### What Jesus Says to the Loveless Church

## 1. Jesus COUNSELS the Loveless Church!

### *Description of City-Church in Ephesus*

- The CITY was commercially, politically, and religiously great, yet it was immorally abhorrent to God.
- The CHURCH had a great legacy, yet it was on the verge of swift and severe judgment by Christ.

### *Description of Christ's Character*

Jesus CARES about His church and He's THERE among His church (v. 1).

## 2. Jesus COMMENDS the Loveless Church!

### *Jesus' All-Knowing Commendation*

- Jesus praises their sacrificial DEEDS (v. 2).
- Jesus praises their sound DOCTRINE (v. 2, 6).
- Jesus praises their steadfast DEDICATION (v. 3).

## 3. Jesus CONDEMNS the Loveless Church!

### *Jesus' All-Knowing Condemnation*

Jesus rebukes the Church in Ephesus because they have ABANDONED their first love (v. 4).

## 4. Jesus CORRECTS the Loveless Church!

### *Jesus' Appropriate Correction*

- REMEMBER from where you've fallen (v. 5).
- REPENT of your sin of a loveless heart (v. 5).
- RETURN to the works you did at first (v. 5).
- REMAIN true to sound doctrine (v. 6).

## 5. Jesus CHALLENGES the Loveless Church!

### *Jesus' Awe-Inspiring Challenge*

- Warning: A church that loses its first love will lose its LIGHT unless they repent (v. 5).
- Promise: Christians who OVERCOME in Christ will celebrate with Christ in paradise (v. 7).

### **Takeaway: Heeding What Jesus Says to Us**

Ask the Lord if He has this against you: you have LEFT your first love. If you have, then heed Jesus' call to restore your first love with Him.