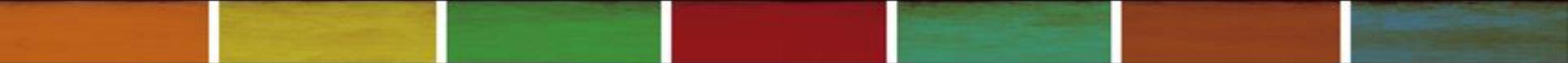


WHAT  
CHRIST  
REALLY  
THINKS  
OF THE CHURCH

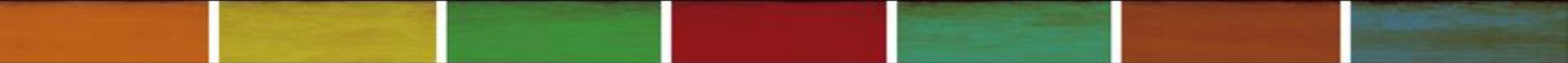




*John, To the seven churches in the province of  
Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is,  
and who was, and who is to come, and from  
the seven spirits before his throne,*

Revelation 1:4





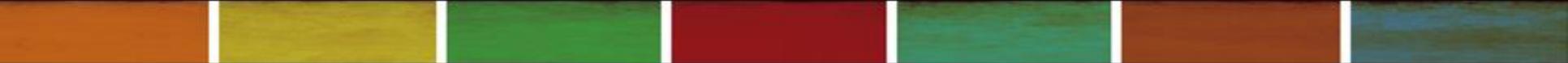
# What Do We Know About the Church?

This is Christ's church.

*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.*

Matthew 16:18





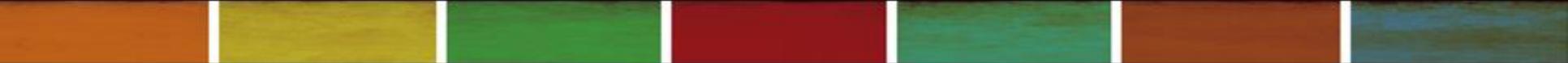
# What Do We Know About the Church?

Christ is head of His church.

*And God placed all things under his (Christ's) feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.*

Ephesians 1:22-23





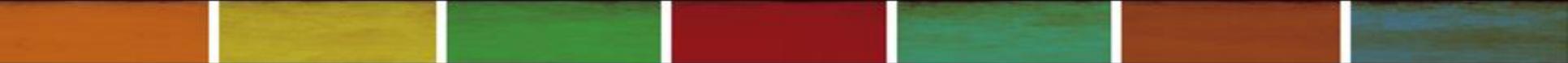
# What Do We Know About the Church?

Christ entrusts His agenda to His church.

*His intent was that now, through the church,  
the manifold wisdom of God should be made  
known to the rulers and authorities in the  
heavenly realms,*

Ephesians 3:10





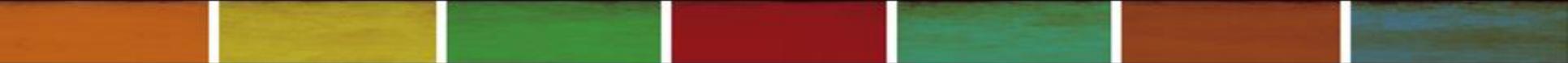
# What Do We Know About the Church?

Christ loves the church.

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ...*

Ephesians 5:25





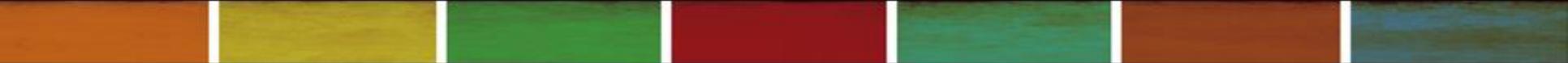
# What Do We Know About the Church?

The goal is a radiant church.

*and to present her to himself as a radiant church,  
without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but  
holy and blameless.*

Ephesians 5:27

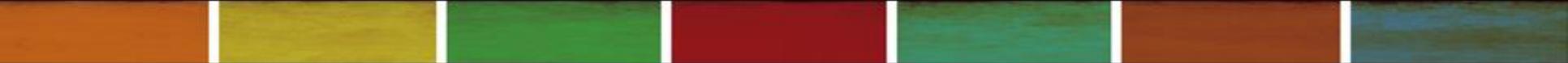




*<sup>9</sup> I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.<sup>10</sup> On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup> which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."*

Revelation 1:9-11





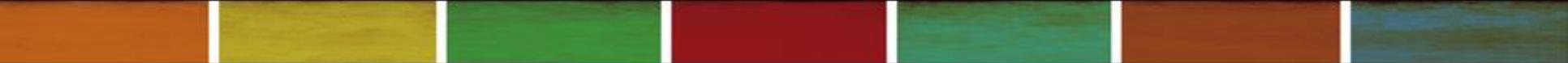
# The General Call

*<sup>5</sup> Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.*

Revelation 2:5

- Remember
- Repent
- Return

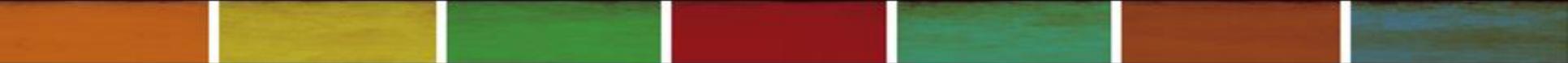




# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

1. The Church in Ephesus  
Revelation 2:1-7



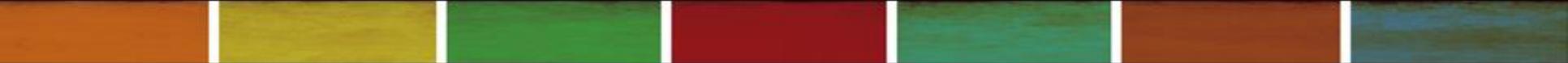


## Commendation:

*“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. <sup>2</sup> I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. <sup>3</sup> You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.*

Revelation 2:1-3





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 1. The Church in Ephesus

Revelation 2:1-7

Correction: Forsaken love:

*<sup>4</sup> Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first.*

Revelation 2:4

Challenge: Full devotion





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 2. The Church in Smyrna

Revelation 2:8-11

Commendation: You are fearless

<sup>8</sup> *“To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:*

*These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. <sup>9</sup> I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.*

Revelation 2:8-9





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 2. The Church in Smyrna

Revelation 2:8-11

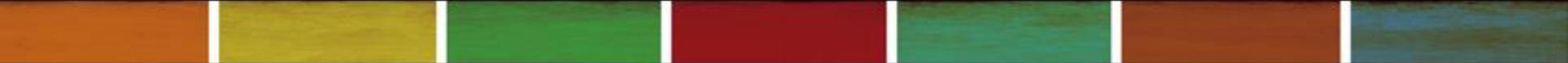
Challenge: Be faithful

*Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.*

Revelation 2:10

The Challenge: Faithful devotion





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 3. The Church in Pergamum

### Revelation 2:12-17

*<sup>12</sup> “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:*

*These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. <sup>13</sup> I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me ...*

Revelation 2:12-13

Commendation: You are faithful



# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 3. The Church in Pergamum

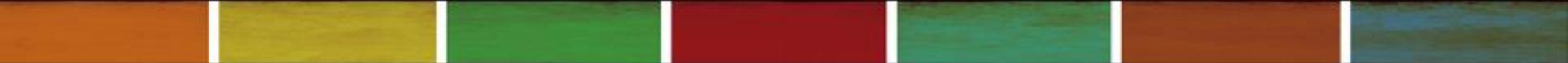
Revelation 2:12-17

*<sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. <sup>15</sup> Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.*

Revelation 2:14-15

Correction: You dilute and compromise the faith





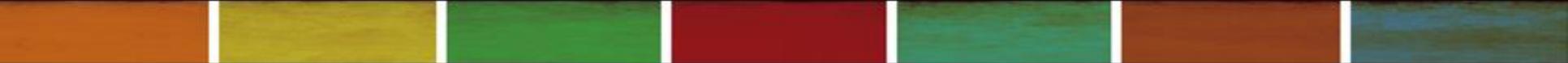
# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 3. The Church in Pergamum

Revelation 2:12-17

The Challenge: Make your devotion pure





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 4. The Church in Thyatira

### Revelation 2:18-29

*<sup>18</sup> “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. <sup>19</sup> I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.*

Revelation 2:18-19

Commendation: You have a growing faith





# What is the Current Condition of the Church?

## 4. The Church in Thyatira

Revelation 2:18-29

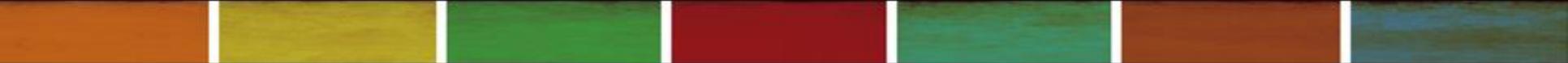
*<sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.*

Revelation 2:20

Correction: You tolerate immoral leadership

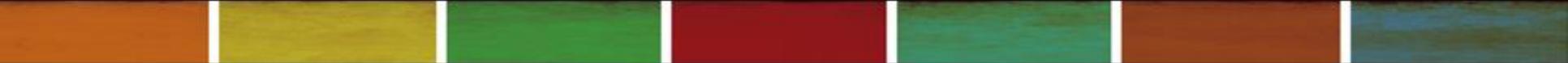
Challenge: Make the call, go for purity





Christ loved the church.  
Do I?





*<sup>5</sup> Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.*

Revelation 2:5

- Remember
- Repent
- Return



WHAT  
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