



Logos Class

Book of Revelation- Ch 2B

June 8, 2025

Rooms 123/124 New Building

Class Schedule for the next few weeks

- ✓ *May 25, 2025 – Revelation- Ch 1B*
- ✓ *June 1, 2025 – Revelation Ch 2A – Church of Ephesus*
 - ✓ *June 3, 2025 – Manor Lake Daniel 12*
- ✓ *June 8, 2025 – Revelation Ch 2B New Classroom*
- *June 15, 2025 – Revelation Ch 3*
- *June 22, 2025 – Revelation Ch 4*

Quick Update ...ICYMI

Middle East

- *Little visible action, but Israel is continuing its offensive and capturing, clearing, and holding land in Gaza, Hamas High ranking targets eliminated*
- *Consolidating control over Gaza and parts of Lebanon and Judea/Samaria. Authorized new Jewish settlements in Judea/Samaria*

US/World

- *No progress in Russia/ Ukraine ceasefire agreements*
- *No progress on Iran peace: 5 meetings and no result*
- *Nations of the World are being pronounced "elevated risk" for travel by Americans due to terrorism and kidnapping risks*
- *The economy is getting slightly better with lower prices, but still high interest rates and general pricing for food, insurance*
- *Antisemitism rising across Europe and the US*

Revelation – How the Book of Revelation Unfolds- 1

The book of Revelation presents Jesus Christ in 3 areas:

His Person, His Power, His Program

*This unfolds in **5 Parts**:*

Part 1: Rev 1-3 - Jesus and His Church

- ✓ *Introductions 1:1-8*
- ✓ *Unexpected Meeting 1:9-20*
- ✓ *Introduction to the Church*
- ✓ ***Love Letters to the 7 churches (several lessons)***

Part 2: Rev 4-5 – Journey to Heaven

Heaven's Open Door- Ch 4

Lion and Lamb – Ch 5

Revelation - How the Book of Revelation Unfolds - 2

Part 3 – The Judgments of the Lamb – Rev 6-18

The lamb opens the seals – Ch 6

First interlude – Ch 7

The Trumpets sound – Chapters 8-9

Second Interlude – Part 1 -John eats the book – Ch 10

Second Interlude – Part 2 – Two witnesses

Third Interlude – Part 1 – The Invisible War – Ch 12

Third Interlude – Part 2 – Antichrist comes to power – Ch 13

Third Interlude – Part 3 – Preview of things to come – Ch 14

A Song for the End – Ch 15

The Pouring of the Bowls – Ch 16

The Fall of Babylon – Ch 17-18

Revelation - How the Book of Revelation Unfolds - 3

Part 4 – The Reign of the King – Rev 19-20

The Return of the King – Ch 19

Wrapping Things Up – Ch 20

Part 5: Eternity – Rev 21-22

All things new – Ch 21-22:5

Even So...Come – Ch 22:6-21

Maranatha!!

Revelation Ch 2 – The 7 Churches of Revelation



Seven Churches in Asia Minor

- *They were alive and well when Revelation was written*
- *All in Modern Day Turkey*
- *All Ruins today*
- *John was established in Ephesus*
- *Made circuit trips to each church periodically as the only Disciple left*
- *Many people believe they represent the church for all time, and in every age.*
- *Some believe they are stages of the church*
- *There were many other churches in the area*

Ephesus –a Quick Recap

Largest city in the area at the time, a wealthy trade city, a Pagan City

Temple of Diana

The church at Ephesus was a vigorous defender of doctrine and truth

Called out fakes and imposters in their midst

Long History of solid teaching: Paul, Apollos, Timothy, and John

YET: They had lost their love for the Lord. They were a church of formality and rules, but little love any longer. They were at first strong in their love for the Lord and each other. The Lord told them to remember, repent, and come back and do what they used to do and be what they used to be.

*If they did not, the Lord would **remove their lampstand**, which would take away their ability to represent the Lord and His Gospel Message. No light from them.*

Smyrna – A Look at the City

Let's watch a quick [video](#) on Smyrna

- The 2nd largest city at the time, a thriving Port City, 3rd largest in Turkey today. Rivalled Ephesus for power and influence*
- Considered a jewel of the Roman Empire and Asia Minor*
- The present name is **Izmir**, in the Ionian / Anatolia Region*
- Still has Christian Churches today, although the Christian Population is diminished due to persecution, death, and Muslim takeover*
- Smyrna means fragrant or sweet smelling...associated with Myrrh*
- Smyrna is also known as the Persecuted City*
- The Christian Church in 100 AD was severely persecuted and afflicted*
- In a Sea of Wealth, this church was very poor and had no secular power*

Smyrna



Rev 2:8-11 The Church at Smyrna

⁸ “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.**

⁹ I know your (works and) 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.**

¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown.

¹¹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. **The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.**

Rev 2:8 A Deeper Dive

⁸ “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

- ***Addressee:** This letter is written to the messenger (Pastor) of the Church to read to his church. A letter from Christ Himself to the church, written by John the Apostle.*

***The Attribute of Christ** - Him who is first, and Last...who became dead, and is presently restored to life...now alive.*

- *This verse speaks to the eternality of Christ, not just in a spiritual sense, but also in a physical sense since He conquered death and was raised to life physically*

Let's compare list of the attributes of Christ

Ephesus	Smyrna	Pergamum	Thyatira	Sardis	Philadelphia	Laodicea
<i>Him who holds the 7 stars in His hand and walks among the 7 Golden Lampstands</i>	<i>First and last One who was dead and now raised to life</i>					

We will fill this in as we go through the letters to the churches

THE SEVEN CHURCHES OF REVELATION, Chapters 2 & 3					
	Sender	Compliment	Criticism	Command	Promise
Ephesus (2:1-7)	The One who holds the seven stars in His right hand and walks in the midst of the seven candlesticks	Reputation for works, labor, and endurance; intolerant of evil; tested false teachers; hated the practices of the Nicolaitans	Abandoned their first love	Remember, repent, and do the works done at first	Given the right to eat from the tree of life
Smyrna (2:8-11)	The First and the Last; was dead and is now alive	Enduring tribulation, poverty, slander, and imprisonment	—	Do not fear persecution, being faithful unto death	Given the crown of life; will not be harmed by the second death.
Pergamum (2:12-17)	The One who has the sharp, double-edged sword	Holding onto Jesus' name; not denying the faith in face of persecution	Tolerating the teachings of Balaam and of the Nicolaitans.	Repent	Given the hidden manna and a white stone with a new name inscribed on it
Thyatira (2:18-29)	Son of God, the One whose eyes are like a fiery flame and feet are like fine bronze	Love, faithfulness, service, and endurance; current works are greater than the first	Tolerating teachings of Jezebel, leading to sexual immorality and idolatry	Repent; hold on to what you already have until I come	Given authority over the nations and the morning star
Sardis (3:1-6)	One who has seven spirits of God and the seven stars	—	Are dead; works are incomplete	Remember what you received, keep it, and repent; be alert	Dressed in white clothes; name secured in book of life; acknowledged before the Father.
Philadelphia (3:7-13)	The Holy One, the True One, the One who has the key of David, who opens and no one closes	Keeping Jesus' word and not denying His name despite limited strength	—	Keep on enduring; hold on to what you have	Kept from the hour of testing; made a pillar in the sanctuary of My God; inscribed with the name of My God and new Jerusalem
Laodicea (3:14-22)	The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Originator of God's creation	—	Neither cold nor hot, but lukewarm; wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked	Buy from Jesus refined gold, white clothes, and ointment for the eyes; be committed and repent	Fellowship with Him; right to sit with Jesus on His throne

Revelation 2:9

I know your works...

⁹ I know your (works and) 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.

- *Here, the Lord says He knows their afflictions and poverty. In some manuscripts, the phrase (works and) appears, but it is not in the oldest and best of them*
- ***Afflictions** – This church suffered greatly at the hands of both the Romans, the Pagans, and the “Jews”. They were beleaguered on all sides*
- ***Poverty** – Because of their persecution, all their property, ways to make a living, and personal possessions were taken from them. They were not just “poor,” they were in abject poverty. (Class of believer or circumstance for all?)*
- ***Yet you are rich!** – poor in this world, yet rich in faith (James 2:5)*
- ***Slander /jews** – These are the Judaizers that tormented Paul. They are “Christians” who slander, demean, and persecute the Gentile Christians – they are false believers and a “**synagogue of Satan**” – they do the work of Satan*
 - *False believers have always been in the church, and are the most vehement in driving away those who are true to the faith. Later in Smyrna - Polycarp*

Revelation 2:10 Future Suffering and Glory

¹⁰ Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

- ***Do not be afraid*** – Stop being fearful of what is to come.
- The Lord tells them they have suffered a lot, and He has seen it, but they are ***about to suffer more***. He tells them that it will last for ***10 days***
 - ***10 days*** (Emperor Diocletian or a metaphor for a short time?)
 - The ***Devil*** (Adversary) will orchestrate it all
- He instructs them to be faithful ***even to death***, and He will grant them the ***Crown of Life—Eternal Life***
- This certainly speaks to several things:
 - Compared to Eternity with Him, the persecution would be temporary in this life
 - By holding to their faith, the Lord will give them eternal life
 - As I mentioned earlier, we saw this play out in the life of Polycarp

Polycarp of Smyrna – a fulfillment of persecution



- Polycarp was the Bishop of Smyrna in the second century.
- He was a disciple of the Apostle John, a committed Christian, and an admirer of Paul and his work with the gentiles.
- The Judiazers were active in turning him in for death to the Romans, and there a various legends about him, his capture, is refusal to renounce his belief in Christ, the Roman Proconsul trying to avoid punishment by giving Polycarp a way to support the Roman gods and government.
- He refused and said *"Eighty-six years I have served Him. He had never done me wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King who has saved me?"*
- *He was burned at the stake and became a patron saint in the Orthodox Churches. Death in 155 AD*

Revelation 2:11 *A Promise Made*

¹¹ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.

- ***Whoever has ears** – all those in Smyrna, other churches, then, people then, Churches now, and people now*
- ***Victorious** – Those who sustain the faith through all the persecution will be victors, AND will not be harmed by the 2nd Death*
- ***2nd Death** – Those that believe may die in this life but will live forever with the Lord and not die the death spiritually in the last judgment.*
- ***Polycarp** is a visible example of one who kept his faith and was even killed for his belief in Christ...a martyr for the ages.*
- *The legacy of John's writing the words to the church from Christ was followed and proved by the example of Polycarp.*

Note: No condemnation of Smyrna

Pergamum- A Look at the City

- Let's look at a short [VIDEO](#)
- **Pagan area**- descendants of Babylonian/Chaldean Heresies with a Greek look and feel
- **Balaam's curse** – Allowing compromising influence to change the church's belief and practice, ignoring the word of God
- A Large Library and a university with a focus on medicine. Greek God **Asclepios**- the God of Medicine. Symbol: a serpent entwined staff
- This church is called the Compromising Church and becomes indistinguishable from society as a whole.
- This is characteristic of Christians who sit in university classrooms and hear the gospel undercut and diminished every day, and become swayed in their beliefs. They become compromised Christians in a compromised and unbelieving world. Wealthy and sophisticated.



Pergamum



Revelation 2:12-17 To the Church of Pergamum

¹² “To the **angel** of the church in **Pergamum** write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. ¹³ 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, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

¹⁴ 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.¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

¹⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

Revelation –Ch 2:12-13 A Closer Look

*¹² “To the **angel** of the church in **Pergamum** write:*

*These are the **words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.***

*¹³ **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, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.*

- *The Pastor receives this letter to read*
- *Words of Him that has the **sharp double-edged sword** – This characteristic of Christ is that the Word of God has both blessings and punishments, depending on what one believes and follows or ignores to their peril*
- *Satan has his throne – Pergamum was a city of knowledge and libraries specializing in medicine. I liken it to a secular university that teaches against God and the things of God. I know where you live...in a cauldron of Satan*
- *Even in the days of persecution of Antipas (boiled in oil), they remained faithful...yet*

Adding Pergamum to the Attributes of Christ List

[illegible]

Revelation 2:14-16. Multiple Issues/Actions

¹⁴ 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.¹⁵ Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

*Issue 1 – **Teaching of Balaam** – a prophet who tried to curse Israel, but God turned his curses into blessings, so he devised a plan to corrupt society by intermarriage and cultural change, and it worked*

*Issue 2 – **Nicolaitans** – We talked about this before as a Christian cult that believed Christians could sin in the body and not affect the soul*

Repent or else Christ Himself will come against them with the spoken Word of God...the double-edged sword of Truth

Revelation Ch 2:17 Warnings and Promises Made

17** Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, **I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

***Whoever has ears** – Let him hear and understand and follow*

***Whoever is Victorious** –*

- I will give some **hidden Manna** (insight into the word of God, as nourishment in the drought of society)*
- **White Stone** – Symbol of passing judgment, and a black stone the symbol of being judged, or failing judgment. Even today, in the election of a pope the black smoke is failure to pick, and the white smoke indicates success*
- **New name known only to the one who receives it** – not for glory in this world, but in God's world we will have a new name as a saved Christian in the presence of our Lord*

Next week

- *Next week, Read Rev 3*
- *Pray for our country and leaders*
- *Pray for our church and leaders that we would be the lampstand that holds the light of Christ high for all to see.*
- *Pray for Israel and the Peace of Jerusalem*
- *Pray for each other and encourage each other*
- *Pray for a great awakening to continue across the world and in the US in preparation for the things to come*
- *Pray for the Nations, as the world closes in on the prophetic movement of the end times, as it marches to God's timetable*
- *Be thankful and grateful for all the Lord has done and is doing.*