

Undeliverable as Addressed

Revelation 3:1-6 / Sardis

"To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: 'I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. ²Wake up and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of my God. ³So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you. ⁴But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. ⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' " Revelation 3:1-6 (New American Standard Bible)

What does it mean to be truly alive in Christ? This passage helps us to discover two truths about being spiritually dead or alive.

➤ Only Jesus Can Determine Our Reality (Revelation 3:1-2)

Two things that can cause spiritual decay:

- Comfort

When discomfort comes your way, it may be God's way of keeping you alive!

- Complacency

" . . . for I have not found your deeds completed . . . " Revelation 3:2b (NASB)

Principle: The first step toward renewal is honest awareness that there is something wrong.

For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. 1 Corinthians 2:10-11 (NASB)

➤ Only Jesus Can Determine Our Remedy (Revelation 3:3-6)

Jesus gives 5 prescriptions:

1. Wake Up!

But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. ³³Take heed, keep on the alert; for you do not know when the appointed time will come. Mark 13:32-33 (NASB)

2. Strengthen!

And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." John 20:22 (NASB)

3. Remember!

4. Obey!

Those who love Your law have great peace, and nothing causes them to stumble. ¹⁶⁶I hope for Your salvation, O LORD, and do Your commandments. ¹⁶⁷My soul keeps your testimonies, and I love them exceedingly. Psalm 119:165-167 (NASB)

5. Repent!

Let's keep our residence in Christ!

I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5 (NASB)