

## The Letter to the Church of Ephesus Write

Open in Prayer;

[Revelation 2:1-7 NKJV]

First let look at some historical fact about the Ephesus.

- Ephesus is the Apostolic church **LOST ITS FIRST LOVE**
- Ephesus mean= Desirable
- Asia minor, present day Turkey
- It was a major center for commerce
- Roman seat for the Governor
- The church founded by Paul
- Timothy pastored at this church
- Apostle John also pastored this church and die in this city.
- Famous for Temple of Artemis one of the seven wonders of the world.
- They worshiped the goddess Diana she was the fertility goddess.
- Ephesus also, build a temple to the Emperor Domitian and worship him as a god.
- Paul suffered persecution due the people of Ephesus and throughout Asia turning to Jesus Christ and the silver, gold, stone and wood tradesmen who made statues to the gods [Diana] were losing business and money. Acts 19:20 thru 41.

- Does the church in Ephesus exist today? The answer is that ruins of the City of Ephesus exist in Turkey. Yes the Church of Ephesus does still exist today and has existed throughout church history.
- Open air Theatre which held over 25,000 people and was use for gladiator combat.
- Gladiator graveyard found in 2007

We will go through the seven point mentioned in the intro. Will you scripture to identify and get a clear picture of the structure and workings of the true Bride of Christ. The study will also, describe a real time Christian organization and Church that mirror the Loveless church. What we won't be doing is naming this organization and/or Church and its Pastor. We are here to gossip. All the information I will be sharing it is documented from the organization's web site and from a public published transcript of a conference held by the Pew Forum's biannual Faith Angle conference on religion, politics and public life, where the nation's leading journalists gathered in Key West, Florida and the pastor of this church was the Keynote guest speaker.

The purpose of these letter are not to beat up the church. The purpose is to warn, correct and purified the bride of Christ.

1. To the angel of the church of Ephesus write. Each letter opens to the angel of the church.

There are 3 opinions concerning the angel of the church.

Angel, the Greek word [aggelos] which means a messenger, envoy, one who is sent, an angel, a messenger from God.

First opinion is an angelic being creation of God. a messenger, envoy, one who is sent, an angel, a messenger from God

Second opinion it's the pastor of the church.

Third opinion is that they both heavenly angelic being and a human being, the pastor of the church and the guardian of the church.

The word angel is used 175 times in the New Testament. A 169 times is refers heavenly beings God's ministering spirits **Hebrews 1:14** and 6 times human messengers; John the Baptist in **Matthew 11:10** & **Mark 1:2**, John's followers are referred as Messengers **Luke 7:24**, **Luke 9:52** referring to the disciples as messengers and last **James 2:25** the word used to describe the two spies protect by Rahab in **Joshua 2:1 – 22**.

2. A description of Jesus;

**[Revelation 2:1 NKJV]**

This straight out Revelation 1:16 & 20, it set the stage, establishing Jesus's authority over the church as well as all flesh on the earth.

[Matthew 28:18-20 NKJV]

[Philippians 2:9-11 NKJV]

3. A commendation of the church's good works [Rev. 2:2&3]

[Revelation 2:2-3 NKJV]

This sound like the church is doing good, until we examine the Jesus's rebuke. We are going to find that this has left out the most important element!!!

4. Jesus's rebuke against the churches for a spiritual deficiencies and/or sin [Rev. 2:4].

[Revelation 2:4 NKJV]

[Matthew 22:37-40 NKJV]

Jesus make it clear we can't keep His word without LOVE and therefore, without LOVING HIM we are unable to love anyone else.

[John 14:23-25 NKJV]

Let's take look the church in the beginning;

[Act 6:1-10 NKJV]

Note that the apostles were unwilling to stop preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ to serve tables, not that feeding of the poor was not important. The preaching of the Gospel and knowledge of God is more important, because it gives eternal life.

[John 17:1-3 NKJV].

Looking at churches that lost their first love, but continue to do all works that benefit the community in the here and now. This church is trying to eradicate poverty, social injustice, psychological problems, physical problems without the Prince of Peace without the joy of the Lord it becomes a social justice or social gospel/loveless church. When this you introduces Socialism into the church.

“[Communist Goals for America:]

- Eliminate prayer or any phase of religious expression in the schools on the ground that it violates the principle of “separation of church and state.”
- Control schools. Use them as transmission belts for socialism and current Communist propaganda.
- Soften curriculum. Get control of teachers’ associations. Put party line in textbooks. Control student newspapers.

- Infiltrate churches and replace revealed religion with “social” religion (i.e. “social justice,” “liberation theology”).
- Discredit the Bible and emphasize the need for intellectual maturity which does not need a “religious crutch.”
- Discredit American culture.
- Discredit the family as an institution. Encourage promiscuity and divorce.
- Present homosexuality, degeneracy and promiscuity as “normal, natural, healthy.

Albert S. Herlong, Jr. (1909-1995) US Congressman (D-FL) (1949-1969)

Christian Hunger Organization, Hire Christians from all denomination, exist from donations made by Christian. On their web site they claim forbid any worker and/or volunteer from proselytizing Gospel of Christ to anyone receiving aid. They now openly accept same sex couples.

Compare this organization with Samaritan’s Purse where they openly proselytize and share the Gospel of Christ when feed the poor, helping victims of natural disasters and giving Christmas boxes to children.

The first organization feed the poor and leaves their salvation to chance.

The second example is a Mega Church pastor speaking at the Pew Forum's biannual Faith Angle conference on religion, politics and public life, to a group of the nation's leading journalists gathered in Key West, Florida

This pastor initially speaks against the social gospel at this conference and then said this;

But what happened is Protestantism split into two wings, the fundamentalists and the mainline churches. And the mainline churches tended to take the social action issues of Christianity – caring for the sick, for the poor, the dispossessed, racial justice and things like that. Today there really aren't that many Fundamentalists left; I don't know if you know that or not, but they are such a minority; there aren't that many Fundamentalists left in America.

This pastor go on to say that he has global plan and this plan is to eradicate poverty and being social injustice to the world. He even has been contacted by China and attended to state dinners. He alleges that Marxism is dead in China. Part of his plan is to go into a community search out the most influential member of that community to put his plan into action even if that person is Muslim. The idea is to show Christ without preach Christ. Explain where the method comes from.

9,000 feeding 42,000.

This is what Jesus said about loveless fruit;

[Matthew 7:15-27 NKJV]

5. Exhortation followed by a warning and/or encouragement.

[Revelation 2:5-6 NKJV]

In this case the Ephesus church warned and encouraged.

Warning to the saints is throughout the bible, in Acts 20:28-31 Paul warns the church of Ephesus.

[Act 20:28-31 NKJV] 2

Jesus warns and call for the Hebrews to beware.

[Matthew 23:1-39 NKJV] "

6. An admonition or warning to listen what the spirit saying [Rev. 2:7 a].

[Revelation 2:7 NKJV] '

7. A promise to the overcomers [ Rev. 2:7, b]

I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." '

In closing the loveless is like parable of leaven.

[Matthew 13:33 NKJV]



This parable fits with the church of Ephesus, leaven does two things you are making bread. One it puff up which is pride and sin, Jesus is warning us that the church will be puffed up. Second thing leaven does it make bread taste good. In the end of the church that leavens the word will taste good, but do no good for the soul.

[2Timthoy 4:1-5 NKJV]