

Difficult Days, Part 9: The State of the Church
The Church that Died
Revelation 3:1-6

I. Jesus alone is the source of life (v. 1).

- A. Jesus holds the Spirit of God.
- B. Jesus holds the life of His church.
- C. Jesus declared to Sardis that they were dead.

(Job 33:4; John 6:63; Revelation 1:4, 12-16)

II. Jesus detailed what needs to happen in a dead church (vs. 2-3a).

- A. He told them to wakeup.
- B. He told them to strengthen the things which remain.
- C. He told them to remember what they had received and heard.
- D. He told them to repent.

III. Jesus exhorts His church to respond to Him (vs. 3b-6).

- A. He offers a warning about what will happen if they ignore His word.
- B. He mentions the blessings that would come if they listen to His word.
 - 1. They will walk with Christ.
 - 2. They will be dressed in white.
 - 3. They will not be removed from life.
 - 4. They will have their name confessed by Jesus to the Father.

(Exodus 32:32; Psalm 69:27-28; Luke 10:19-20; Matthew 24:43; 1 Thessalonians 5:2; Revelation 7:9-10, 13-14)

Scripture References and Notes

Revelation 1:12-16 (NASB)

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³ and in the middle of the lampstands *I saw* one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴ His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. ¹⁵ His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶ **In His right hand He held seven stars**, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Revelation 1:4 (NKJV)

John, to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne...

Job 33:4 (NKJV)

The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

John 6:63 (NKJV)

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

dead

- νεκρός (nekros)
- adj: dead, lifeless, subject to death, mortal, (b) noun: a dead body, a corpse.
- (an adjective, derived from *neky*s, "a corpse, a dead body") – dead; literally, "what lacks life"; dead.

1 Thessalonians 5:2 (KJV)

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.

Matthew 24:43 (NKJV)

But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

Revelation 7:9-10, 13-14 (NKJV)

⁹ After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

¹³ Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, “Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?” ¹⁴ And I said to him, “Sir, you know.” So he said to me, “These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Exodus 32:32 (NKJV)

Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.”

Psalm 69:27-28 (KJV)

²⁷ Add iniquity unto their iniquity: and let them not come into thy righteousness. ²⁸ Let them be blotted out of the book of the living, and not be written with the righteous.

Luke 10:19-20 (KJV)

¹⁹Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."