

Living Insight

How would Jesus evaluate your spiritual life if He sent you a letter to inform you of His evaluation? When He checked out your service for Him and His Kingdom, what would He say to you? When He looked at your faithfulness to Him, what comments would He make? He sent a letter to the church in Ephesus and found only one thing lacking in their lives. They had forsaken their first love. Are we guilty of the same sin? They were (and we are) called upon to repent and do the things we did at first! Our first love is so important! Let's not lose our lampstand!

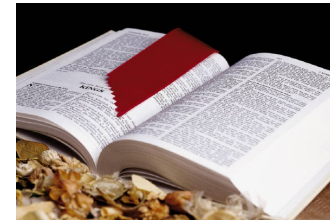
~ Through His Grace, Mercy & Power,

Ed

Prayer Requests



Having Lost that First Love



CHURCH OF CHRIST Sixteenth & Decatur

Sermon Outline

Revelation 2:4-7

Date: Sunday, March 02, 2014

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Having Lost That First Love



- I. **Introduction: The Lord knows us so very well.**
- A. Jesus has all power and offers all protection.
 - 1. He holds the seven stars (angels) in His hand.
 - 2. We depend upon Christ for our strength today.
 - 3. Only our Lord has all power. ~ *Matthew 28:18*
 - B. He also blesses us with His presence & perception.
 - 1. He walked among the seven churches.
 - 2. His inspection revealed strength & weaknesses.
 - 3. We are accountable to Jesus for our actions!
 - C. The church in Ephesus had many strengths.
 - 1. They were a hard working & patient church.
 - 2. They held to sound doctrine & tested “*apostles*”.
 - 3. They kept working when the work was difficult.
- II. **Body: The church that had heart trouble**
- A. The church had forsaken their first love. *(2:4)*
 - 1. They had lost their love for God & each other.
 - 2. They had completely abandoned their first love.
 - 3. We can also forsake our first love for the Lord.
 - B. Jesus gave them the prescription for their heart disease.
 - 1. They first had to **remember** from where they had fallen. *(2:5)*
 - 2. We must also be willing to **repent!**
 - 3. We must finally be willing to **return!**
 - C. They had (and we have) a simple choice:
Revival or Removal!
 - 1. If we do not repent, we lose our lampstand!
 - 2. There is no body of believers in that area now.

Revelation 2:4-7

- III. **Conclusion: Jesus spoke to those who would hear.**
- A. We must overcome our circumstances.
 - 1. Physical heart disease can lead to death.
 - 2. Spiritual heart disease will also lead to death.
 - B. Each individual Christian must choose to live.
 - 1. The “**tree of life**” brings healing for us.
~ *Revelation 22:1-2*
 - 2. We have a choice today of life or death.
 - C. The flames of our first love must be rekindled.
 - 1. We must be victorious and overcome.
 - 2. We all want to be in the Paradise of God.

Sermon Notes
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