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## Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

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### LESSON FIVE

#### THE SEVEN IGNORED MESSAGES OF JESUS

Teaching code - in “teacher notes”.

1. **Underlining** - designed to get class participation.
2. **Bold items** - messages to instructor.
3. **All other copy** - information designed to go directly to class.

Place lesson 6 with (No Exhibits) at student locations.

#### FRIENDLY GREETING AND PRAYER

**\*\* Bring seven letters you have received.**

RS-005

## Lesson Five

## THE SEVEN IGNORED MESSAGES OF JESUS

**Place Lesson 6 (no Exhibits) at student locations.**

## FRIENDLY GREETING AND PRAYER

**Bring seven letters you have received.**

Friends, I have seven letters here.

What would you say if I told  
you they were for you from the President?  
Would you be interested in reading them?

This evening we shall study 7 letters from Jesus!  
There is no comparison between authors!

Jesus and His messages are of infinitely more value.

1. Let's get right into our wonderful lesson.

I believe part “A” of our answer is self-explanatory.

Now concerning part “**B**”, do you recognize the significance of the “Book of Life”?

## What is the Book of Life?

The point is, the messages of this book are of eternal importance in God's sight.

Let us look at these messages.

## Notes, Questions & Prayer Requests

[illegible]



## QUIZ QUESTIONS

(True or False)

1. The revelation of Jesus Christ is very important. Strong warnings are given to those changing it in any way. True
2. Overcoming Satan and sin is a predominant theme to all 7 churches. True
3. The gold tried in the fire represents character – a faithful character that works by love. True
4. The Laodicean Church was aware of its condition. False
5. The 7 churches show Christianity's history from apostolic times until the present. True

## OFFERING APPEAL

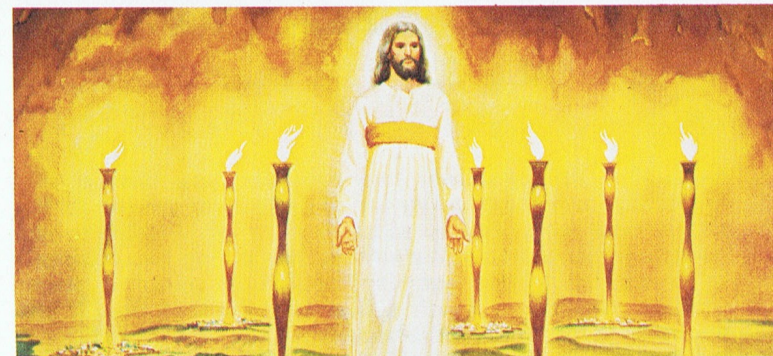
### Decision Questions

1. I believe more and more that REVELATION has a message for today's Christian. Place an "X" in the upper right corner of your quiz envelope if you agree.
2. I want to receive of His gold, His robe, and His eyesalve, so that I can please the Lord, be a wide-awake Christian, and be ready when Jesus comes. Place another "X" if this is your desire.

**Talk up the next lesson.**

### Closing Prayer

# A BIBLE PROPHECY ADVENTURE REVELATION SEMINARS



## THE SEVEN IGNORED MESSAGES OF JESUS

The books of the New Testament are largely letters written by apostles to various churches or individuals. Christendom, in general, accepts all these letters as God's authoritative word to the church today.

But one of the New Testament books, Revelation, bears the name of JESUS, Himself. In fact, the book is entitled, "The Revelation of Jesus Christ". It begins with seven specific letters or epistles from Jesus to the churches. Of all the letters, or epistles, of the New Testament, surely, these personal letters of love, with special counsel from our Lord, should receive the greatest attention and concern by His people.

But it is not so. Tragically, these seven imperative letters from Jesus have been almost entirely ignored. Satan, the archenemy of God's people, must certainly rejoice that most Christians are not listening to Jesus' important counsel from His own extraordinary book of Revelation.

Thank God, it is not too late. This Revelation Seminar comes to grips with these seven great messages. May the Holy Spirit guide us as we study chapters two and three of Revelation, and listen to Jesus' crucial counsel for busy Christians in the 80's.

1. **What solemn warning does Jesus give in regard to the extreme importance of every word of Revelation? Rev. 22:18,19 (1826)**

**Ans: a.** If I add anything to Revelation, God will add to me the PLAGUES

**Ans: b.** If I subtract anything from Revelation, God will remove my name from THE BOOK OF LIFE



2. We learn that these messages were directed to churches of Asia.  
However, like all the Bible,  
these messages have application to us, today, as well.

3. After discussion –  
What Jesus is saying is:  
**A.** I know you. I understand you.  
**B.** You must overcome. I will help you.  
**C.** We must heed the voice of the Holy Spirit.

This is applicable, right here,  
in this seminar.

### IS OUR OBEDIENCE IMPORTANT TO GOD?

The whole matter comes down to this.

God says:

We must listen.

We must obey.

By faith we will overcome,  
with God's help.

**Ans: b. WHITE RAIMENT** means JESUS' ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS: Isaiah 61:10 (1099) and Revelation 19:8 (1821). It is given by Jesus as a free gift. We do nothing to earn it. We receive it by faith alone. Zechariah 3:1-5 (1378). And it is retained only by faith in Jesus. Romans 1:17 (1648).

**Ans: c. EYESALVE** means (1) DISCERNMENT TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S WORD. Psalm 119:18 (947); I John 2:20,27 (1791). (2) HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP US SEE OUR TRUE CONDITION AND MAKE PROPER CHOICES. John 14:26 (1576); Ephesians 1:17-19 (1715).

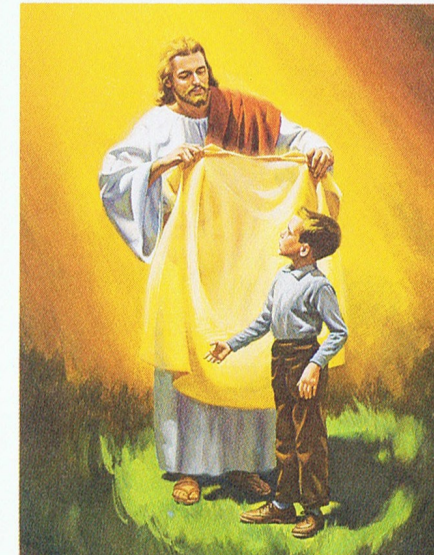
19. What must I do to be certain that the precious gold, white raiment and eyesalve are mine? Revelation 3:20 (1804)

**Ans:** Open wide the DOOR and let Jesus enter my LIFE

NOTE: Though Jesus **can** open many doors, He **will not** force open the door to my heart. This I must do myself.

THE SPECIAL WORDS OF JESUS TO HIS CHURCH through seven eras end on a somber note. His last day church IS NOT READY FOR HIS APPEARING!

His counsel to us in Revelation 3 is FANTASTIC. However, He has MUCH MORE to say to us in the remaining 19 chapters. SOME COUNSEL WILL BE SHOCKING and STARTLING, but since it is HIS counsel I WANT IT ANYWAY. Don't you?



**Jesus offers us the pure robe of His righteousness, that we may be clothed. Read Rev. 3:18-20**

**Are you willing to accept His robe of righteousness?**

**Ans:** \_\_\_\_\_



Dear friends, we live in the time  
of the church of Laodicea!

Jesus said, "Behold, I stand at the door  
and knock.

If any man hear my voice  
and open the door  
I will come in to him,  
and sup with him and he with me."

He has the solution to our lukewarmness.  
He has the power to give us victory  
over the attractions of this present world.

Jesus longs to come into every heart,  
to solve our problems,  
to fill us with His love.

My heart says, "Give us the certainty  
of salvation. Come in! The door is open.  
Satisfy the longings of my life."

### CLASS APPEAL

20. I want you to respond to the following statement  
by raising your hand.

"I want to open the door of my heart  
always to let Jesus have complete control,  
so I might become more like Him,  
through fellowship with Jesus."

If you desire this same experience and  
want me to pray for you, please raise your hand.  
Let us pray.

NOTE: Most notes for this lesson are on Exhibit #2. See Point 1 for the note for Question One.

2. Where were these seven churches located? Revelation 1:4 (1800)

Ans: IN ASIA

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 2.

**NOTICE:** This seminar has provided you with a very important one-sheet overview of Jesus' messages to the seven churches. Please study it carefully PRIOR to our next seminar session. We will be discussing two chapters in Revelation in one evening, and must cover all points quickly. It will be much easier for you to follow if you acquaint yourself with this overview sheet ahead of time. It is labeled "Exhibit #1". Also, please read chapters two and three of Revelation before the session.

3. Three statements that Jesus makes to the seven churches are so exceptionally important and so relevant to Christians in all eras that they were given to all seven churches. What are these three statements that were made to all seven churches?

a. Revelation 2:2 (1801); 2:9 (1802); 2:13 (1802); 2:19 (1802); 3:1 (1803); 3:8 (1803); and 3:15 (1804)

Ans: "I know thy WORKS."

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 3-a.

b. Revelation 2:7 (1801); 2:11,17 (1802); 2:26 (1803); 3:5 (1803); 3:12 (1804) and 3:21 (1804)

Ans: "To him that OVERCOMETH."

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 3-b.

c. Revelation 2:7 (1801); 2:11,17 (1802); 2:29 (1803); 3:6 (1803); 3:13 (1804) and 3:22 (1804)

Ans: "Hear what the SPIRIT saith unto the churches".

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 3-c.

**HERE ARE GOD'S THREE MESSAGES TO EVERY PERSON TODAY.**

1. God knows all about me. I cannot deceive Him.
2. "Overcoming" is imperative. It takes place only through Jesus.
3. I must heed the voice of the Holy Spirit at all times.



4. Jesus has commended the church at Ephesus for certain things, but then rebukes and warns them.

Notice with me a very interesting sidelight:  
Rev. 2:7 (1801)

#### WHO WOULD LIKE TO READ THIS VERSE?

If we are overcomers,  
what will we be privileged to do?

ANSWER – Eat from the tree of Life.

Do you know the origin of the tree of Life?

Look at Gen. 2:9, Rev. 22:1,2

The tree of Life was transplanted  
from the Garden of Eden,  
and yields continuous life  
as we partake of it.

We will study this in more detail later.

But isn't it exciting.

5. An interesting point here:

Today, the general attitude toward sin is

- Permissive, or at best
- Passive

"Sure we know we shouldn't,  
but after all, no one is perfect!"

Jesus made it clear, in Rev. 2:6,15

That He holds the church responsible  
to keep wolves out of the flock.

It is true, we must not condemn  
those who are struggling under sin.

But neither are we to ignore sin.

We must love and help them.

6. Summarize introduction or have student read it.



Jesus began the  
last phase of  
His heavenly  
ministry in  
the Most Holy Place

#### LAODICEA - CHRISTIANITY TODAY

LAODICEA (mid 1800's until Jesus comes). The heart beats faster as we study about the church of our day. These words are direct council and reproof to Christians living now. Jesus knows our spiritual problems and needs. He offers solutions and assistance.

16. What does Jesus say our problems are today? Rev. 3:15-17 (1804)

Ans: a. Verse 16 - We are LUKEWARM.

Ans: b. Verse 17 - We feel that spiritually we are RICH

and need NOTHING when truly we are spiritually WRETCHED

MISERABLE POOR, BLIND and NAKED.

NOTE: This condition is alarming. Nothing is worse than for me to think I am in harmony with God's will when, instead, I am desperately in need of repentance (verse 19). Many, seemingly devout people, will be lost in the final judgment for the same reason. See Matthew 7:21-23 (1407). It is bad enough to be in trouble. It is worse yet to be in trouble and not know it.

17. What three things does Jesus counsel me to obtain in order for me to see myself as I really am, so I may bring my life into harmony with Him? Revelation 3:18 (1804)

Ans: 1. GOLD (a precious metal).

Ans: 2. White RAIMENT (clothing).

Ans: 3. EYESALVE (medicine)

18. What is the meaning of gold, white raiment and eyesalve?

Ans: a. GOLD means the true riches of Heaven, which are manifested in a golden character, which will stand up under the fire of persecution and adversity. It includes: GOD'S WORD, Psalm 19:7-10 (871) and FAITH WHICH WORKS BY LOVE, Galatians 5:6 (1711); James 2:5 (1775) and Job 23:10 (839).



16. Now is the moment of truth.  
It's not easy to look at ourselves.  
What is our condition, today?

**Have someone read answers to #16.**

**Illus.** An American soldier in Korea befriended a Korean boy. The GI invited him to come to the U.S. The boy first agreed, then declined. When asked why, he replied, "No like GI food!" Do we have such a distorted appetite for the things of this world that we are in danger of missing heaven?

- 17-18 Do you realize  
the whole plan of salvation  
is summarized in Rev. 3:18?

First – Spiritual discernment;  
to see our need, (Rom. 3:23).  
Second – Surrender to Jesus  
and accept his forgiveness and  
righteousness, (1 John 1:9).  
Third – Allow God's power to  
remake us and our characters,  
(John 1:12).

**NOTICE:** Because time is limited, as we look at these messages to the seven churches, we will emphasize only the key points for each era.



### EPHESUS - ERA OF APOSTLES

EPHESUS, the church of the Apostles, represents God's church of the first century. Before his death (ca 65 AD) the apostle Paul could say the gospel had been taken to the whole world. Colossians 1:5,6,23 (1728). With incredible speed the church grew to over 6 million, by the end of the first century. (pg 6)

4. What reproof did Jesus give Ephesus? Rev. 2:4 (1801)

Ans: They had LOST their FIRST love.

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 4.

5. Jesus commended the Ephesus era of the church for their attitude toward false teachers. What was their attitude? Revelation 2:2 (1801)

Ans: "Thou hast TRIED them which SAY they are APOSTLES and are NOT."

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 5.

### SMYRNA - ERA OF PERSECUTION

SMYRNA (100 A.D. through 313 A.D.) covers a period of fearful persecution and martyrdom for the church. The Roman Empire attempted to stamp out Christianity. Only God knows how many were decapitated, burned, fed to lions and slain by the sword. The church lived so close to Jesus He gave them no reproof!

6. What encouragement did Jesus give to Smyrna? Rev. 2:10 (1802)

Ans: " FEAR none of these things which thou shalt suffer ...  
be thou FAITHFUL unto DEATH and I  
will give thee a CROWN OF LIFE."

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 6.



7. What did you think concerning the second death mentioned here?

DID YOU STUDY THE NOTE?

We will study this subject more, later.  
But mark this in your notes and memories –  
For some there will be a second death!

8. When Satan saw he could not stamp out the church by persecution he introduced a new method.

Satan had greater success with this method than he did using the method of persecution.

Does any of this sound strangely familiar?

**9. After class discussion**

What is implied by naming Jezebel?

The church had committed spiritual adultery by embracing pagan worship.

What does this tell us concerning our church, today?

ANSWER – God wants us to keep it pure.

13. What striking words describe the condition of the Sardis era of the church as Jesus viewed it? Revelation 3:1 (1803)

Ans: "Thou hast a name that thou LIVEST and art DEAD."

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 13.

**PHILADELPHIA - ERA OF REVIVAL & MISSION**

PHILADELPHIA (mid 1700's to mid 1800's A.D.) is the era of the birth and expansion of foreign missions and the American and British Bible Societies. Missionaries encircled the world.

Great revival preachers like Whitefield and the Wesleys helped spark a global revival. The greatest revival since Pentecost was fueled by the study of the books of Daniel and Revelation.

The name "Philadelphia" or "brotherly love" is fitting. As Jesus looked at His church of this era He offered no reproof.

14. This church had difficulties, however, with the same group as did the church of Smyrna. What was the group called? Rev. 2:9 (1802); 3:9 (1803)

Ans: The SYNAGOGUE of SATAN

NOTE: Notice that the people of Satan's synagogue (church) were here pretending to be faithful, true members of God's church and did not reveal their true colors. These are the most dangerous emissaries of the devil, because they appear so righteous and sweet and loving. Jesus calls them wolves in sheeps clothing, Matthew 7:15 (1406). We can expect the devil's representatives to be devious and deceitful. After all, the devil is the father of lies, John 8:44 (1564). If we stay close to Jesus and check all teachings by His Word, we will not be deceived, Isaiah 8:20 (1034); 30:21 (1059).

15. In Revelation 3:7,8 (1803), God talks to Philadelphia about something opening and shutting. What was it?

Ans: A DOOR

NOTE: The door mentioned here is the door into the Most Holy Place of Heaven's Sanctuary. The door into the Most Holy Place was opened in Heaven by Jesus during this time period, and no man can shut it. The amazing significance of this event will be studied in detail in two other lessons in this Seminar. Exciting events began to transpire in Heaven when this door opened. Watch for these coming lessons.



**14-15** I like the church of Philadelphia,  
the church of brotherly love.

What are the two points  
that these two questions emphasize?

- A.** There are false followers.
- B.** God opened a door  
which no man can shut!

WHO WOULD LIKE TO READ THE NOTE UNDER #15?

**7. What was promised to the overcomer in Smyrna? Revelation 2:11 (1802)**

Ans: "He that **OVERCOMETH** shall not be **HURT**  
of the **SECOND** death".

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 7.

### PERGAMOS - ERA OF COMPROMISE

PERGAMOS (313 through 538 AD) covers the era of state supported religion and compromise. Christianity had grown so rapidly that there were places where Christians were in the majority. The Roman Emperor, Constantine, professed conversion and had his entire army baptized as Christians.

Satan, unable to destroy the church through persecution, corrupted it by popularity, compromise and worldly alliance. Pagan beliefs and practices corrupted the church. Pergamos was called Satan's seat (v. 13) because it was the headquarters of Rome's heathen religion. The Lord rebuked the church of this era for allowing false teaching to flourish.

**8. The doctrines of a man and a group were mentioned. What are their names? Revelation 2:14,15 (1802)**

Ans: a. Man **BALAAM**

Ans: b. Group **NICOLAITANS**

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 8.

### THYATIRA - ERA OF APOSTACY

THYATIRA (538 through the 1400's AD) is the longest period of all the seven churches. This period, sometimes called the "Dark Ages," was a time of fearful apostacy.

**9. The Lord rebuked the church of this era for opening its doors to an evil woman who corrupted it. What was this woman called? Revelation 2:20 (1802)**

Ans: **JEZEABEL**

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 9.

**10. What solemn warning did God give to this symbolic Jezebel and all who followed her? Revelation 2:22,23 (1802)**



10. The struggle of the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan is serious, and Jesus is determined that His church will not follow Satan!

11. **After discussion**

God always has had a faithful people and always will – those who cannot be bought or sold!

That brings me courage.  
He has a people today!

I want to be listed among  
His people, don't you?  
Would you raise your hand in agreement?

12. My heart goes out to the Church of Sardis!  
It's not easy to stand for unpopular truth.  
Yet it was a magnificent period – the era of awakening.

We can learn from their faithfulness.

Ans: a. "I will cast them. . . into great **TRIBULATIONS**."

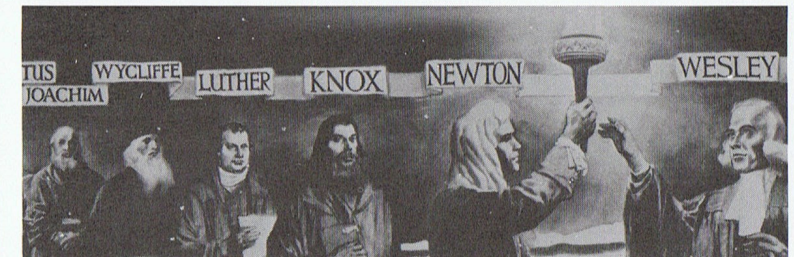
Ans: b. "I will **KILL** her **CHILDREN** with **DEATH**".

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 10.

11. Whom do you think the "rest" are in Thyatira, who opposed the Spiritual corruption of that time period? Revelation 2:24 (1803)

Ans: **WYCLIFF, HUSS, JEROME, LUTHER, ZWINGLI**

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 11.



**SARDIS - ERA OF REFORMATION**

SARDIS (1500's through mid 1700's A.D.) covers the crucial period of reformation when Spirit filled men shook the world by testing Christian beliefs by God's Word.

Some of these great men of God founded church denominations, still in existence today. But, alas, when they died, their followers ceased searching for truth, compromised what they already possessed and went backward with astounding rapidity.

12. What did Jesus say was about to happen to the spiritual experience of the church of this era? Revelation 3:2 (1803)

Ans: It was about to **DIE**.

NOTE: See Exhibit #2, Point 12.

NOTE: This solemn lesson is for us today. Keep pursuing truth and follow it as you find it, and blessings will come. Refuse to do so, and calamity comes. Jesus reveals light to me gradually, as I can handle it, John 16:12 (1579). If I accept light as He gives it, I receive more, till I have full light, Proverbs 4:18,19 (971). If I refuse light, it goes out and I stumble in darkness, John 12:35 (1573).