

## *Seven Churches Of Asia Series:*

# **Ephesus: The Loveless Church**

**Rev. 2:1-7**

Introduction:

A. Ephesus:

1. Commercial center in southern Asia Minor.
2. Religious center: Goddess Diana's temple. (Cf. Acts 19).
3. Paul's warning to elders there - apparently heeded. (Acts 20:28ff).

B. Let us notice the various parts of this letter:

Discussion:

### **II. The Description of Christ In This Letter (vv. 1,2)**

- A. Holds the seven stars in his right hand. (Cf. Rev. 1:20).
- B. Walks in midst of seven golden candlesticks. (cf. Rev. 1:20).
  1. Church to shine as lights. (Phil. 2:15).
  2. Christians are light of the world. (Matt. 5:14)
- C. "I know" - Knows all. (John 2:24,25; Heb. 4:13).

### **III. The Condition Of The Church At Ephesus.**

- A. Her good points:
  1. Works and labor. (cf. Phil. 2:12; Jas. 2:14-16).
  2. Patience or steadfastness. (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 15:58; 16:13)
  3. Could not bear those who are evil. (2 Thess. 3:6; 1 Cor. 5:6,11; Matt. 18:17).
  4. Tried those who said they were apostles - shows doctrine important. (1 Tim. 4:16; Matt. 15:9).
  5. Hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans - deeds not the people. (Psa. 119:104)
- B. Her bad point:
  1. Left her first love - can be doctrinally sound but still lack love.
  2. We must love. (Matt. 22:37; 1 Cor. 13:1-3).

### **IV. The Advice To The Church At Ephesus.**

- A. Remember. . . : Need to remember some things and forget some things. (Phil. 3:13; Heb. 10:32-39).
- B. Repent. (Acts 8:32)
- C. Do first works. (Reformation needed).
- D. Or would have candlestick removed - lose its identity.
- E. Overcome and eat of tree of life. (Cf. Gen. 2:24)
  1. First time tree of life mentioned since Eden.
  2. Mentioned later in Revelation. (22:2,14).
  3. So much to overcome before reaching it.

Conclusion:

1. Let us not forget to love while we are fighting evil.
2. Let us realize that our candlestick can be removed.
3. Let us strive to gain access to the tree of life.