

# Church History: “Propheesied”

Revelation 1:10 -3:22

## What did John experience on the isle of Patmos? 1:10-16

What did he hear? v.10,15

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What did he see? vv.12-16

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Head and hair

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Eyes

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Feet

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In His right hand

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Out of His mouth

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Face

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## What did the ascended Christ say to John? 1:17-20

v.17,18

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v.19,20

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## What did He reveal to John about the seven churches? 2:1-3:22

“Christ now dictates letters to the seven Asian churches. Each letter is addressed to the “angel”, or “messenger” of the church. Each message identifies Jesus in a special way, reveals an intimate knowledge of the church addressed, pinpoints the church’s most serious flaw, and then conveys a command intended to correct the problem or warn the church. The letter closes with a promise of reward to the victor who responds obediently. Significantly, each promise is eschatological - and alludes to some element found in Revelation 21-22.”

“The Bible Reader’s Companion” Lawrence O. Richards p.908

“Although these seven churches were actual, historical churches in Asia Minor, they represent the types of churches that perennially exist throughout the church age. What Christ says to these churches is relevant in all times.”

“MacArthur Bible Commentary” John MacArthur p.1

## How is each church characterized?

### Ephesus 2:2,3

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### Smyrna 2:9,10

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### Pergamum 2:13-16

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### Thyatira 2:20-23

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### Sardis 3:1

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### Philadelphia 3:8

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### Laodicea 3:15

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“As the contents of the letters are analyzed, it is clear that they are **first**, messages to these historic local churches in the first century. **Second**, they also constitute a message to similar churches today. **Third**, individual exhortations to persons or groups in the churches make it clear that the messages are intended for individuals today. **Fourth**, some believe that the order of the seven churches follows the order of various eras in church history from the first century until now.

In general these letters to the seven churches address the problems inherent in churches throughout church history and are an incisive and comprehensive revelation of how Christ evaluates local churches.

“The Bible Knowledge Commentary” Walvoord & Zuck, p.933

## These seven churches represent:

Churches (the body of Christ) at the time John wrote Revelation  
Churches (the body of Christ) at any period in history.  
Churches (the body of Christ) through the centuries.