

Revelation 2:1-7; 3:14-22

Series – Revelation: Till the Bridegroom Returns

Message – Seven Churches and the Reality of Life

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Fifth Reformed Church

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The Seven Churches

- Revelation 1:10-11
- Revelation was written _____ those first-century Christians.
- Biblically, “seven is the number of _____”
(Richard Bauckham, The Theology of the Book of Revelation, p.16).
- Revelation was written _____ Christians of all times.

The Pattern of Real Life

- “I know your deeds...” (Rev. 2:2).
- “Yet I hold this against you...” (Rev. 2:4).

The Call to Listen

- “Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says...” (Rev. 2:7a).
- Learning to listen to the Lord is the _____ step of genuine discipleship.
- “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me” (John 10:27).
 1. How is God getting your attention?
 2. What might God be saying to you?
 3. What are you going to do about it?

- Galatians 5:25
- Hearing from the Lord and responding is, primarily, what it _____ to keep in step with the Spirit.

The Assumption of Battle & Call to Overcome

- “To the one who is victorious...” (Rev. 2:7b).
- In the statement, “to the one who is victorious,” there is both an _____ of battle and a call to overcome.
- Any spiritual battle that we have with earthly powers here is, in fact, a subset of the _____ battle between God and evil.

Reflection Questions

1. In your own words, explain to someone else how the letter of Revelation was written to first-century Christians and for us.
2. What are the four elements present in almost all of the messages to the seven churches?
3. Share one way you believe the Lord is pleased with the way you are following Jesus. Share one way you believe the Lord might be challenging you to change in the way you’re following Jesus.
4. Discuss the claim that “Learning to listen to the Lord is the first step of genuine discipleship.” Do you buy it? Why or why not?
5. There is an assumption of battle in Revelation. How in your life are you experiencing that battle today?
6. How is God getting your attention?
7. What might God be saying to you?
8. What are you going to do about it?