THE HOPE OF GLORY

Revelation: The Hope of Glory

Revelation 3:14-22
The Letter to the Church at Laodicea

Common elements of 7 letters:

- City/church name
- Reference to Christ
- Commendation of the church
- Accusation against the church
- Exhortation
- Motivating promise
- Summons to hear/heed



"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God."

- 2 Corinthians I:20

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"Perhaps none of the seven letters is more appropriate to the church at the beginning of the 21st century church than this. It describes vividly the respectable, nominal, rather sentimental, skin-deep religiosity which is so widespread today. Our Christianity is flabby and anemic. We appear to have taken a lukewarm bath of religion."

- John Stott

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"He isn't waiting for you to trigger his heart; he is already at the door, knocking, wanting to come in to you."

- Dane Ortlund Gentle and Lowly

"It costs something to be a true Christian. Let that never be forgotten. To be a mere nominal Christian, and go to church, is cheap and easy work. But to hear Christ's voice, and follow Christ, and believe in Christ, and confess Christ, requires much self-denial. It will cost us our sins, and our self-righteousness, and our ease, and our worldliness. All - all must be given up."

- J. C. Ryle

"For as long as we avoid recognition of our lostness we are prevented from experiencing the elegant profundities of foundness."

- Eugene Peterson

The 7 Churches: The Bride Beautiful

- 1. A passionate "first love" relationship with the Lord Jesus which spills over into all other relationships.
- 2. A glad willingness and preparedness to suffer for our Bridegroom
- 3. A growing knowledge of the truth of the gospel and a commitment to defend the faith "once and for all delivered unto the saints."

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- 4. Purity of heart and holiness of lifestyle driven by love and empowered by grace.
- 5. An aliveness in Jesus generated by His real presence in our midst and hearts.
- 6. A commitment to follow Jesus into a life of other-centered living through evangelism, missions and cultural impact.

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7. An undivided and wholehearted allegiance to Jesus which treasures communion with Him more than the comforts of the world, more than anything else.