

Welcome to Emmanuel Temple Church



***"Come Let us worship the
Lord In Spirit and In Truth"***

A Life Changing Experience

The Book of Revelation



The Church of Ephesus

A Life Changing Experience



Revelation 1:9

9 I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.



Revelation 1:11

11 saying, *"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,"* and, *"What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."*



Revelation 1:19

19 Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.



Revelation 1:20

20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in My right hand, and the seven golden lampstands: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.



Pattern of the Letters

- Addresses specific church
- Jesus identifies Himself
- Commendation
- Condemnation
- Promise
- Admonishment to hear what He is saying



The Atmosphere

This was a time of heavy persecution,
idolatry, and heresy.

2 Timothy 3:12

Exodus 20:3-6; 2 Corinthians 6:17

Galatians 1:8,9



The Atmosphere

- John is writing to his congregation from prison
- Christians are still under Roman authority
- Christianity is still fairly new
- Acts 1:8
- "Jesus is coming soon!!!"



Revelation 2:1-7

1 *"To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands:*

2 *"I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars;*



Revelation 2:1-7

3 *and you have persevered and have patience, and have labored for My name's sake and have not become weary.*

4 *Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.*



Revelation 2:1-7

5 *Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place — unless you repent.*

6 *But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.*



Revelation 2:1-7

7 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.""

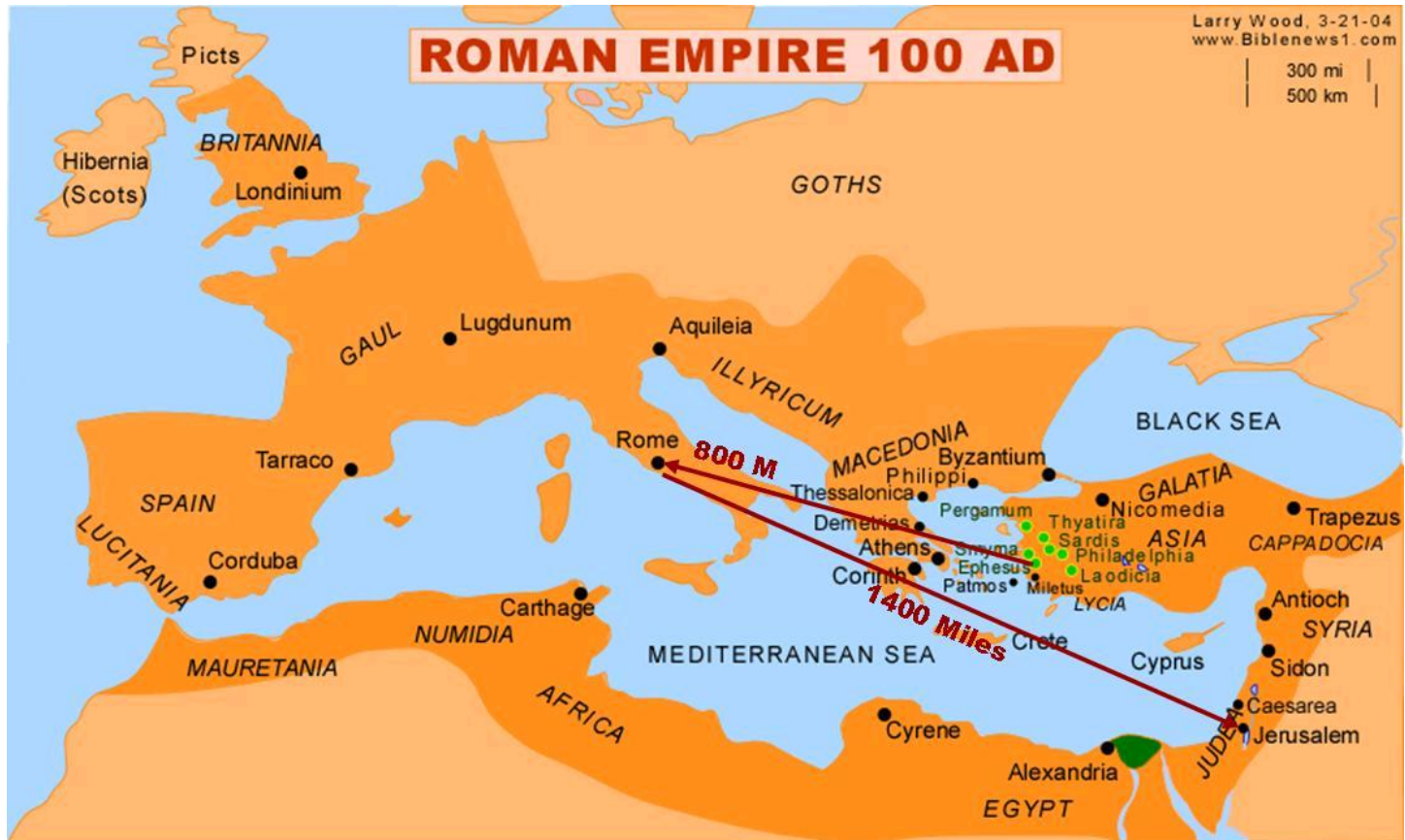


7 Churches Roman Empire





7 Churches Roman Empire





Ephesus

- Ancient Greek city founded 2000BC
- 2nd largest city in the Roman Empire and in the world
- Population of 250,000 – known for politics, religion, and commerce
- Famous for Temple of the goddess Diana – the prominent religion; one of the 7 wonders of the world



goddess Diana



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Temple of Diana





Ampitheater



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Library of Celsus



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Commendation

- I know your works
- Your labor
- Your patience
- You cannot bear those who are evil
- You have tested those who say they are Apostles and found them to be liars
- You have persevered and have patience



Commendation

- You hate the deeds of the Nicolaitians which I also hate



Nicolatians

- Nikao – “to conquer”; laos – “the people”
- Meaning victorious over the people
- Adherent of Nicolaus, a heretic
- False teaching that sexual immorality is ok
- Rev. 2:6,15



Condemnation

You have **left** your first love
aphiemi (af-ee'-ay-mee); from NT:575
To let go; send away; neglect; leave;
let alone; let be; let go; yield up



You have left your first love

- What makes you fall in love?
- Does love only happen when something is given? (affection, gifts, stirred emotions)
- How do you feel when it seems that you are doing all of the giving and receive nothing in return?



You have left your first love

Considering the atmosphere of the time; the worship of the goddess Diana; and the prosperity of the city...

- How did the church of Ephesus leave their first love?
- Did they have the same attitude as the Ephesians – Acts 19:24-28



John 6:66-69

66 *From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.*

67 *Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?"*



John 6:66-69

68 *But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.*

69 *Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."*



*"I come that they
might have life..."*

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