



## Living in a Challenging Culture

- 1. Love
- 2. Truth
- 3. Worship

Imperial Attitude	Divine Counterpart in Revelation
Son of God	2:18
Morning Star	2:28; 22:16
Holy	3:7; 6:10; 15:4; 16:5
Beginning of breath and life	3:14
Honor	4:9; 5:13; 7:12
Lord and God (dominus et deus)	4:11
Glory	4:11; 5:12, 13; 7:12; 19:1, 7
Worthy	5:12
Master	6:10
Savior	7:10; 12:10; 19:1
Lord of all the world	11:4



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What Are the Life Lessons of Revelation?

### Valley Church Statement of Faith

**Christ's Return:** We believe in the personal, bodily, and glorious return of our Lord Jesus Christ. The coming of Christ, at a time known only to God, demands constant expectancy and, as our blessed hope, motivates the believer to godly living, sacrificial service, and energetic mission.

**Response and Eternal Destiny**: We believe that God commands everyone everywhere to believe the gospel by turning to Him in repentance and receiving the Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that God will raise the dead bodily and judge the world, assigning the unbeliever to condemnation and eternal conscious punishment and the believer to eternal blessedness and joy with the Lord in the new heaven and the new earth, to the praise of His glorious grace. Amen.

### **UPCOMING DATES for Digging Deeper in Revelation**

Monday, May 2 topic TBD

Monday, May 16 topic TBD

Monday, June 6 The 7 Churches of Revelation

guest speaker: Dr. Kenneth Cuffey, President, Urbana Theological Seminary

### Pergamum (2:12-17)

God's words to the church at Pergamum are as sharp as a twoedged sword: they have kept true and faithful despite tragedy, but they are following false teaching. They must turn back before it is too late.

### Thyatira (2:18-29)

Thyatira was a garrison town and also the birthplace of Lydia, Paul's first convert in Philippi (Ac 16:14). The church is praised for its endurance and service, but warned against the teaching of a woman called "Jezebel"—a reference to the notorious queen—who is spreading false teaching. The church is urged to hold to the teaching they already have.

### Smyrna (2:8-11)

A prosperous town and a faithful ally of Rome, Smyrna was famous for the magnificence of its public buildings. The church, however, had known suffering, poverty and persecution by local Jews. God reassures the church and promises that if they keep the faith, they will be rewarded.

### Sardis (3:1-6)

Sardis was living on former glories. Once a great city, now it had lost much of its greatness. The church reflects the city: although it has a reputation of life, it is virtually dead. God urges the church to wake up, to recover its strength, to hold firmly to the truth.

# Ephesus (2:1–7)

The church is praised for its integrity, work and endurance, but it is threatened by apathy and complacency. The followers are urged to turn back to first principles.

# Philadelphia (3:7–13)

Though small and weak, the church has remained faithful in the face of persecution. God praises them for their faithfulness and assures them of victory.

1:21-3:22

# Seven churches

The comments on the seven churches follow a set pattern. They start with the good things, move to the bad things and then end with a challenge—"let him who has ears hear!"

# Pergamum Thyatira Sardis Smyrna Philadelphia Ephesus Laodicea

# Laodicea (3:14–22)

Laodicea was a rich and prosperous city that lay on the main trade route. The only problem with the city was that the water had to be piped from hot springs to the south, meaning that it arrived lukewarm. The church, like the city, is smug and complacent. And as lukewarm as its water.