

FOR THE SERMON PREACHED ON: Sunday, October 31, 2021

TITLE: A Letter to a Distracted Church

PASSAGE: Revelation 2:1-7

SERIES: The Book of Revelation: Worthy is the Lamb

- 1. The title of this sermon is *"A Letter to a Distracted Church."* Can you think of a time or situation where you were distracted? What distracted you? Did you remain distracted? How long did it take to no longer be distracted?
- 2. Read Revelation 2:2-4.
 - a. What are your "works" (where are you serving)?
 - b. Do you find joy in serving or would you describe it as a burden?
 - c. Do you "patiently endure" when life is difficult, or do you try to escape? What are the things that you use to distract yourself instead of patiently enduring hardship?
- 3. Read Revelation 2:2-3, John 8:14, John 10:14-15, John 10:27.
 - a. List what Jesus knows from these verses?
 - b. Do you believe that Jesus knows you this way?
 - c. He knows what you have done, what you are doing, where you have been, where you are going. Does this bring you "comfort" or does it bring "conviction"?
- 4. Read Ephesians 3:14-20. Paul is writing to the Ephesian church and is praying for their spiritual strength.
 - a. What will happen with the Ephesians when they are strengthened?
 - b. What are they to be "rooted and grounded" in?
 - c. What will they "know"?
- 5. Read Revelation 2:4. What did the church in Ephesus abandon? Could this also be true for you?
 - a. List the "5 signs that we've left our first love" that were mentioned in the sermon.
 - b. Which one do you relate with the most? Why?
- 6. In Revelation 2:5 Jesus gives 3 commands and 1 consequence.
 - a. What are the 3 commands?
 - i. Where have you fallen from? How did God rescue you from your fallen condition?
 - ii. How long does it take for you to repent when you turn away from God?
 - iii. What are some of the things that you did when you were first saved?
 - iv. How can you return to doing those things?
 - b. What is the consequence if they don't follow the 3 commands?
- 7. Read Genesis 2:8-9.
 - a. Who planted the garden?
 - b. According to Revelation 2:7 who gives permission to eat of the tree in this garden?
 - i. Do you look forward to that day in the paradise of God?
 - ii. What will that look like?
 - iii. Do you think about this truth often?
 - iv. How can you remind yourself of this truth when you are distracted?