



### I. City

- ❖ Major commercial centre and seaport in Asia Minor
- ❖ Known for sexual immorality and occult practices
- ❖ Temple of Idol Artemis - Acts 19 - Diana - fertility god
- ❖ Major ministry by Paul, Priscilla & Aquila - revival
- ❖ Stronghold: spirit of Religion



City of Ephesus near Kusadasi Port  
- Cruise Ship Stop




### II. Christ Jesus

1. He who holds the seven stars in His right hand.

**Revelation 2:1a** "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand ...

**Revelation 1:20b** ... The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches...



### II. Christ Jesus

2. He who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands.

**Revelation 2:1b** "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:"

**Revelation 1:20c** ... and the seven lampstands which you saw are the seven churches.

### III. Commendation

1. Ephesus Church was diligent, steadfast, persevering in the Lord.

**Revelation 2:2a** I know your works, your labour, your patience ...

**Revelation 2:3** and you have persevered and have patience, and have laboured for My name's sake and have not become weary.




### III. Commendation

2. Ephesus Church loved Righteousness and Holiness.

**Revelation 2:2b** and that you cannot bear those who are evil.

**Revelation 2:6** But this you have, that you hate the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.



### III. Commendation

3. Ephesus Church was discerning.

**Revelation 2:2c** And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars ...

**Hebrews 1:9a** You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness ...



### III. Commendation

3. Ephesus Church was discerning.

**Hebrews 5:14** But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Example: **Knowing God** [Jeremiah 9:24]

- A. God is simultaneously loving, just and righteous
- B. God's love can never compromise His righteousness
- C. God's love is always circumscribed by His righteousness



### IV. Complaint

**Revelation 2:4** Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love.



### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

1. As none of us can love God on our own, the first love is our experiencing the love of God firstly.

**1 John 4:10** In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

We must first experience His love.



### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

2. We can then love God as our response to Him first loving us.

**1 John 4:19** We love Him because He first loved us.



### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

3. We must continue to receive and abide in the love of God.

**1 John 4:16** And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.





#### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

4. The love of God will fill our hearts to mould our attitudes and motivations in relating to others in life, work and ministry.

**Romans 5:5** Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.



#### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

- 5A. When we fail to experience and abide in the love of God, we will revert to our carnal-corrupt-natural love manifested in performance in works and religious practices.



- 5B. This was what happened to the church at Ephesus. This is what was meant as leaving our first love.

#### IV. Complaint - Left Our First Love

**1 Thessalonians 1:3** remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the sight of our God and Father ...

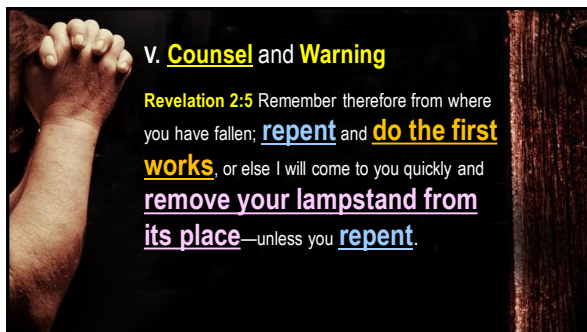
##### **Hebrews 6:1 - Dead Works**

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God ...



#### V. Counsel and Warning

**Revelation 2:5** 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.

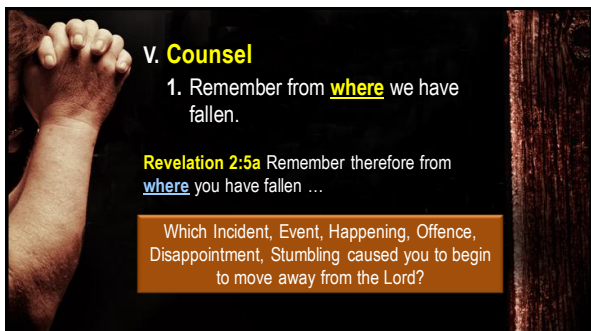


#### V. Counsel

1. Remember from where we have fallen.

**Revelation 2:5a** Remember therefore from where you have fallen ...

Which Incident, Event, Happening, Offence, Disappointment, Stumbling caused you to begin to move away from the Lord?




#### V. Counsel

2. Repent and do the first works of your first love.

**Revelation 2:5b** repent and do the first works

- A. Continually abide and receive the love of God.  
B. Connect with God always.






2. **Repent** and **do** the **first** works of your **first** love.

C. Love and partake the **Word** of God.

**Hold tightly to God's Word & r/s with HS**

D. Repair and build your altar of **thanksgiving, praise** and **worship**.




2. **Repent** and **do** the **first** works of your **first** love.

E. Don't be cold nor lukewarm, but be **hot** for God, have **passion** for God!

F. Don't just have a relationship with God but build a **vibrant** one.

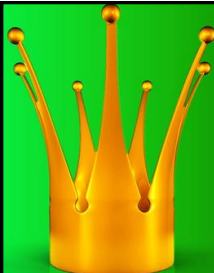
- sensitive to HS [conscience]
- knowing & hearing God
- learning & growing spiritually



2. **Repent** and **do** the **first** works of your **first** love.

G. Live in continual **surrender** to know the GAP will of God.

H. Live in total **dependency** on the Holy Spirit.



**VI. Crown**

**Revelation 2:7** 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**.


**Bottom Line**



Have you left your **FIRST LOVE?**

**Matthew 24:11** because of lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold!

**Bottom Line**



Have you forsaken your **FIRST WORKS?**

Is your relationship with God Hot & Vibrant ?  
Or has it turned cold and dull?