

## I. City

- A great wool industry flourished at Sardis.
- The luxurious living of the Sardians led to moral decadence ... a painted contrast of past splendour and present decay.
- City of peace: "of a man whose dreams are dead, whose minds are asleep, the peace of lethargy and evasion."

Stronghold: **Spirit of Tradition**

## II. Christ Jesus

1. He Who has the **7 Stars**.

Revelation 3:1 And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says **He who has the** seven Spirits of God and the **seven stars**: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead."

Revelation 1:16a He had in His right hand **seven stars**, ...

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

## II. Christ Jesus

2. He Who has the **7 Spirits of God**.

Revelation 3:1 And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the **seven Spirits of God** and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead."

James 2:26 For as **the body without the spirit is dead**, so faith without works is dead also.

John 6:63 **It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.** The **words that I speak** to you are **spirit**, and they are **life**.

## II. Christ Jesus

2. He Who has the **7 Spirits of God**.

Isaiah 11:2 The **Spirit of the Lord** shall rest upon Him, the **Spirit of wisdom** and **understanding**, the **Spirit of counsel** and **might**, the **Spirit of knowledge** and of **the fear of the Lord**.

## III. Commendation

Revelation 3:4 **You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments**; and they shall **walk with Me in white**, for they are worthy.

1. A Few - The **Remnant**

## III. Commendation

2. To not defile their garments and walk with Me in white is to walk in **holiness**.

Revelation 3:4 **You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments**; and they shall **walk with Me in white**, for they are worthy.

1 Peter 1:15-16

15 but as He who called you is holy, you also **be holy in all your conduct**, 16 because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy.**"

2. To walk in holiness is to walk:

A. In the Presence of God.

**Revelation 3:4** You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

2. To walk in holiness is to walk:

A. In the Presence of God.

i. We can come to the House of God and yet fail to meet the God of the House.

ii. We can do bible studies and yet fail to experience the Word Himself.

iii. We can serve in the church and yet not have a present relationship with Him.

2. To walk in holiness is to walk:

A. In the Presence of God.

**Revelation 3:18b** ... buy ... and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed ...

2. To walk in holiness is to walk:

B. In Purity.

**Revelation 3:4** You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

Revelation 19:8

Romans 13:14

2. To walk in holiness is to walk:

B. In Purity.

**Hebrews 1:9** You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.

#### IV. Complaint

**Revelation 3:1a-2**

1 ... "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God.





1. Having a reputation of being alive in the eyes of Men.

**Revelation 3:1b** ... "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

**Matthew 23:5-7**

**5** But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. **6** They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, **7** greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.'



1. Having a reputation of being alive in the eyes of Men.

**Matthew 23:27-28**  
**27** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. **28** Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.



2. In the eyes of God, their works were spiritually dead.

**Hebrews 6:1** 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 ...



2. Dead Works are works done
  - A. Without dependence on the Holy Spirit.

**2 Timothy 3:5** having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

**Acts 1:8** But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."



2. Dead Works are works done
  - B. Without faith.

**Hebrews 11:6** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.





## 2. Dead Works are works done

### B. Without faith.

James 2:18, 20, 22

18 But someone will say, "You have faith, and I have works." Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

22 Do you see that faith was working together with his works, and by works faith was made perfect?

## BBTC Strategy to fulfil our Purpose-Vision-IDMC

- i. Anointed Worship
- ii. Anointed Word
- iii. Anointed Altar
- iv. Anointed Body Life - CG
- v. Anointed Works of Faith

## V. Counsel - Warning

Revelation 3:2-3

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

**5 Counsels to bring life back into the church**

## 5 Counsels to bring life back into the church:

1. Be Watchful.

Revelation 3:2-3

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

## 5 Counsels to bring life back into the church:

2. Strengthen the things which remain.

Revelation 3:2a Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, ...

## 5 Counsels to bring life back into the church:

3. Remember what they have first received and heard.

Revelation 3:2-3

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

**Galatians 3:1-3, 5**

1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth ...

2 ... Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

3 Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?



**5 Counsels** to bring life back into the church:

4. **Hold Fast** what they have first received and heard.

**Revelation 3:2-3**

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

**5 Counsels** to bring life back into the church:

5. **Repent.**

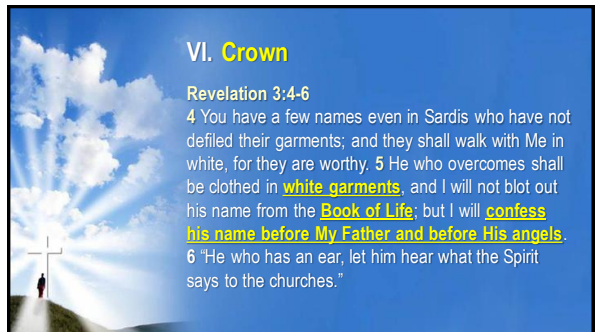
**Revelation 3:2-3**

2 Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God. 3 Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent.

Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

**VI. Crown****Revelation 3:4-6**

4 You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels. 6 "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."



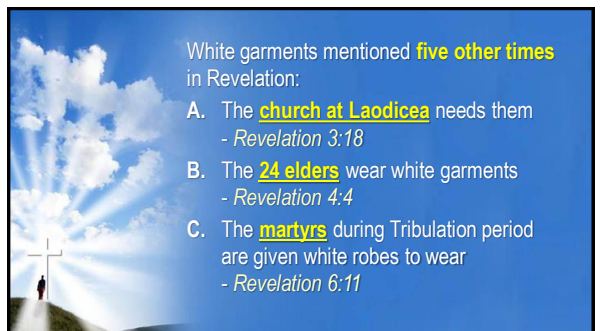
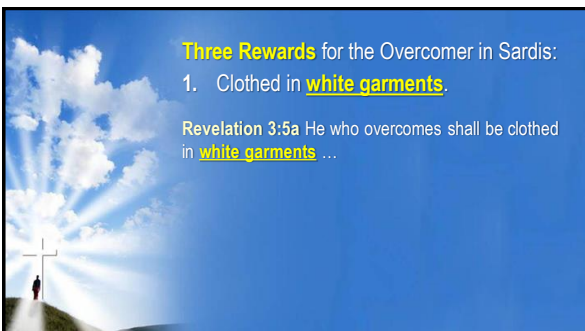
**Three Rewards** for the Overcomer in Sardis:


1. Clothed in white garments.

Revelation 3:5a He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments ...

White garments mentioned **five other times** in Revelation:


- The church at Laodicea needs them  
- Revelation 3:18
- The 24 elders wear white garments  
- Revelation 4:4
- The martyrs during Tribulation period are given white robes to wear  
- Revelation 6:11





White garments mentioned **five other times** in Revelation:

- D. The **armies appearing with the messiah** wear white and clean linen  
- Revelation 19:14
- E. The **great multitude** of the saved wear robes made white in the red blood of the Lamb - Revelation 7:14



**Three Rewards** for the Overcomer in Sardis:

- 2. **Not** blot out his name from the book of life.

Revelation 3:5b ... He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and **I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life** ...

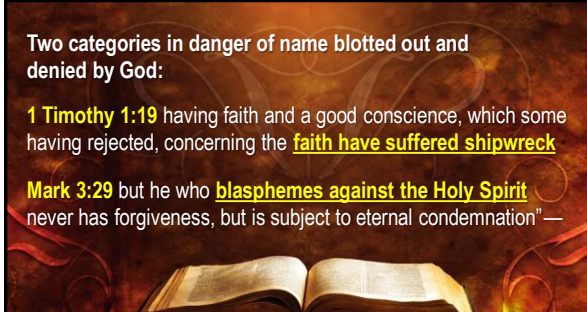
2 Corinthians 13:5a **Examine** yourselves as to **whether you are in the faith**.



**Three Rewards** for the Overcomer in Sardis:

- 3. Jesus will **confess** His name before Father-God and the angels.


Revelation 3:5c ... I will **confess his name before My Father and before His angels**.



Two categories in danger of name blotted out and denied by God:


**1 Timothy 1:19** having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the **faith have suffered shipwreck**

**Mark 3:29** but he who **blasphemes against the Holy Spirit** never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation" —



**Bottom Line**  
Stronghold: **Spirit of Tradition**

- 1. The key issue with the church in Sardis:
  - A. Having a reputation of being **alive** in the eyes of **Men** but
  - B. In the eyes of **God**, they were **spiritually dead** i.e. dead works.



**Bottom Line**  
Stronghold: **Spirit of Tradition**

- 2. Dead Works are works done:
  - A. Without **dependence on the Holy Spirit**.
  - B. Without **faith** in God.