



Introduction

Messages to the first four churches. The locations of the churches are shown on the Map below.



Questions

1. To which church does John write to say they have lost their first love?
2. To which church does John write that by overcoming their fear, they will be saved from the second death?
3. What does the Son of God say he knows about the church in Thyatira?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 7** The church at Ephesus is persevering and does not tolerate false teaching. However it has lost its initial zeal and needs to regain it
- **v 8 to 11** The church at Smyrna, although poor is rich in faith. However it is suffering from opposition, and is about to suffer persecution (see theme). The members are encouraged to remain faithful
- **v 12 to 17** The church at Pergamum is remaining faithful despite opposition. However they are tolerating members who have wrong doctrines and practices and are warned to take necessary action
- **v 18 to 29** The church at Thyatira is commended for its faith and service. But they are tolerating some members who are leading others astray with false doctrines and practices. The faithful are encouraged to hold fast to the truth

Timeline 60 AD (see below)



Theme / Information

Bad things happen to good people

A selection of verses showing why bad things happen to good people.

There are many examples in the Bible of bad things happening to good people. The supreme example is the Lord Jesus Christ who was crucified, despite never having done any wrong. The apostle Peter tells us that this was for a reason:

1 Peter 3 verse 18

The letter to the Hebrews gives us the reason why some bad things happen to us:

Hebrews 12 verses 6 to 11

The apostles remind the first century believers that life as a believer can be difficult:

Acts 14 verse 22

1 Peter 4 verses 12 and 13

Jesus Christ says that bad things happening to people should serve as a warning to make us stop and think about our lives:

Luke 13 verses 4 and 5



The seven churches in Revelation

Map showing the location of the seven churches mentioned in Revelation 1, 2 and 3:



? Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 1 and 4, Q 2: v 8 and 11, Q 3: v 19 and 20



Bible timeline

