

# A Tale of Seven Churches

*The Good, The Bad & The Ugly*

*Revelation 2:1-3:22 ~ July 2, 2006*

*It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...*

## The Good

### 1. The Church at Smyrna (2:8-11)

☞ Praise: Afflictions, Poverty, Riches, and Slander against them

☞ Direction: Keep the faith

☞ Promise: When you endure what comes, you won't be hurt by it

### 2. The Church at Philadelphia (3:7-13)

☞ Praise: “the little church that could”

☞ Direction: Remain steadfast

☞ Promise: Be made a pillar in the temple

## The Bad

### 1. The Church at Ephesus (2:1-7)

☞ Praise: Hard work, perseverance, and intolerance

☞ Warning: Their love had grown cold (*Mark 12:29-31*)

☞ Direction: Repent / Change or else

☞ Promise: Paradise regained

### 2. The Church at Pergamum (2:12-17)

☞ Praise: Remained true

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*Con't*

## The Bad (con't)

☞ Warning: Compromised their beliefs & disobedient

☞ Direction: Repent

☞ Promise: God restores and revives

### 3. The Church at Thyatira (2:18-29)

☞ Praise: Involved in loving, faithful service

☞ Warning: Permissive of false teaching

☞ Direction: Repent

☞ Promise: As we go, He goes with us

### 4. The Church at Sardis (3:1-6)

☞ Praise: I know your deeds

☞ Warning: They were dead

☞ Direction: Repent and obey what they first heard

☞ Promise: Will be arrayed with Jesus

## The Ugly

### 1. The Church at Laodicea (3:14-22)

☞ Praise: None

☞ Warning: You are neither hot or cold; you are lukewarm

☞ Direction: You must respond to the knock

☞ Promise: Sit on Jesus' lap