

REVEAL-ATION
The Good, the Bad, and the Unaware

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(Revelation 2:1-29 ESV)

✓ What Jesus says through the pastors _____, He's saying
to the churches _____.

EPHESUS

The Good: their works, their toil, their patient endurance; their testing of doctrine, intolerance of evil

The Bad/Unaware: lack of love by declaring the gospel

SMYRNA

The Good: poverty and fortitude

The Bad/Unaware: fear of suffering

PERGAMUM

The Good: suffering, refusal to deny Jesus

The Bad/Unaware: idolatry, sexual immorality

THYATIRA

The Good: their works, love, faith, service, and patient endurance

The Bad/Unaware: tolerance, sexual immortality

Discussion Questions

Starter Questions

What is the greatest Western you've ever watched?

Group Discussion

After hearing the message what was new to you? What prompted you to re-examine an issue, attitude, or behavior? What inspired you to dig deeper into God's Word?

In some ways we can call these letters to the churches Jesus' performance review. Have you ever had a performance review at work? What happened? What was your overall attitude before or after? If you haven't, would you be nervous?

In what ways might we "lose our first love" as the Ephesians did? How can we prevent this from happening?

What does it mean to you to be "faithful unto death" as Jesus instructed the Smyrnians?

Jesus calls the church at Pergamum to repent. Often repentance is something we talk about as happening at the beginning of someone's walk with Jesus. To what extent do you think repentance should be an ongoing part of a believer's life? Why do you think so?

How does society tolerate a 'Jezebel' today, and how can we stand against such toleration?

Digging Deeper

Read Matthew 22:34;40, and then review Revelation 2:4. When Jesus says, "You have forsaken the love you had at first," what do you think He means?

List the promises given in this chapter to those who overcome (7,11, 17,26-28)

Find one passage to help you describe 'poverty' and an additional passage to help you describe 'rich'.

What is one step you'll take this week to be an 'overcomer'?

Prayer Requests

Additional Resources

answer key: then, now

Discipleship on the Edge by Darrell Johnson
Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of Revelation by Nancy Guthrie
Revelation: Four Views by Steve Greg and Robert Clouse
When the Man Comes Around by Douglas Wilson
Is God Anti-Gay by Sam Allberry
The Seven Churches of Revelation by ???

Announcements

If you'd like to donate any nonperishable food items for the **Blessing Box** outside, you can put them directly inside or drop them off on a Sunday morning.

Small groups are in session! Email info@newanthemchurch.com to join