

# The Revelation of Jesus Christ

## Outline:

The things which you have seen: the past – Chapter 1

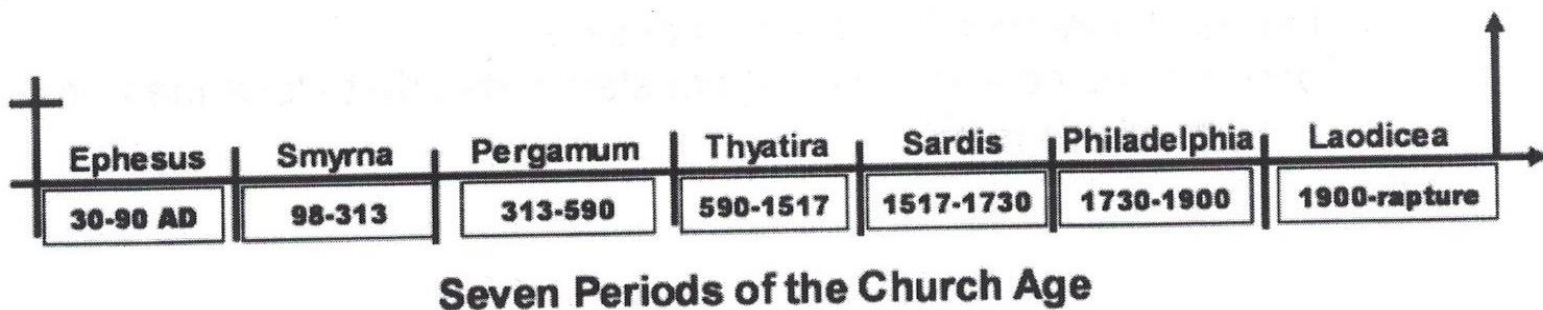
The things which are: the present – Chapter 2 and 3  
Letters to the Churches

The things which will take place: the future – Chapters 4-22

## The Things Which Are – the Church Age

Rev. 1:20 talks about the “secret” or “mystery” of the seven lamp stands which represent the seven churches.

For example, the Ephesus church, the first of the seven, is typical of first century churches.



# THE EPHESUS CHURCH

The city's temple to Diana, the pagan fertility goddess, was one of the seven wonders of the world.

“Nicolaitans” literally means “conquerors over the people”. They taught that the spiritual leaders of the church should have power to lord over the people and rule them.

Because they did not obey God there was no local church in Ephesus for about 300 years.

How does the Ephesus church symbolize the 1<sup>st</sup> period of church history?

The Greek word “ecclesia”, translated church, means ‘a called out company’ and implies separation.

What can we learn from their mistakes?

- \* love not the world
- \* follow God and not man
- \* it doesn't take long to lose our passion
- \* love is a choice, and we must constantly decide to love the Lord with  
with all our heart.

Acts 20:29, I John 2:15, I John 3:17-4:11, II John 1:4-8 and II Timothy 4:10