|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **April 14, 2021** |

Title: *“Remember Your First Love”*

Scripture: **Revelation 2:1-7** “To the angel **(pastor)** of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him **(Jesus)** who holds the seven stars **(pastors)** in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands **(churchs)**. 2I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first **(motive was no longer their love for Jesus)**. 5Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans **(proposed church government)**, which I also hate. 7Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Message: *7 PARTS TO EACH OF THE 7 CHURCH LETTER’S*

1. Who was the letter written to/about?

A. Church name: **Ephesus, founded by Paul & Timothy, pastor by John**

B. Period of church history: **30-100 AD (70 yr period), shortest period of church history**

C. Church meaning: **“Desired”…setup the way Jesus desired**

**-They represented the birth of the New Testament church on the day of Pentecost**

**-They were evangelistic spreading the gospel, but started losing its love for Christ**

2. How did John describe Jesus? **Holding seven stars, walking among seven golden lampstands**

3. “Eyes were like blazing fire” **vs 2 “know”…sees the inner man**

4. What was the work of the church? **Hard work, perseverance, did not tolerate evil, tested false apostles, but began to forsake their first love**

5. What was Jesus’ response to their work? **If they didn’t repent He would remove their lampstand from its place, they would no longer be used by God**

6. “Obedient Hearing” **vs 7 “whoever has ears, let them hear”…heed the warnings**

7. What is the promise(s) to those who hear with the intent to obey? **The right to eat from the tree of life, the paradise of God**

Application: Remember Your First Love…Jesus says that He held against this church, that was doing everything right, that they had began to forsake the love they had at first…their love for Christ was no longer their motivation

* The things about them that pleased Jesus was that they worked hard in the church, persevered through hardships and did not grow weary or get burned out, they stood against evilness in the church and removed those that were not of God
* The one thing they were missing was the heart in which they did it all was not because of their love for Jesus
* Have you forgotten your first love?