

# “WHICH CHURCH ARE YOU?”

## Part 5

### Revelation 3:1-6 (NKJV)

*“Write this letter to the angel of the church in Sardis. This is the message from the one who has the sevenfold Spirit of God and the seven stars: “I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being alive—but you are dead.<sup>2</sup> Wake up! Strengthen what little remains, for even what is left is almost dead. I find that your actions do not meet the requirements of my God.<sup>3</sup> Go back to what you heard and believed at first; hold to it firmly. Repent and turn to me again. If you don’t wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief.<sup>4</sup> “Yet there are some in the church in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes with evil. They will walk with me in white, for they are worthy.<sup>5</sup> All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the Book of Life, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine.<sup>6</sup> Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.”*

- 1) The church at Sardis is known as the **DEAD** Church.
- 2) The **CHURCH** at Sardis had been fooled into believing that they were spiritually **ALIVE** and vibrant, when in actuality, **JESUS** described them as being **DEAD** (v. 1).
- 3) **SARDIS** is one of only two churches in **REVELATION** chapters 2 and 3, Laodicea being the other, that receives no commendation or any compliment.
- 4) The first step that we must take in order to be spiritually **REVIVED** is to realize our **TRUE** condition (v. 2).
- 5) When we place our confidence in ourselves and our **OWN** ability to overcome **SIN**, we fail to see our need of **CHRIST**, and we are no match for Satan’s assaults.
- 6) When we **WAKE** up and realize our true **CONDITION**, it is then that we can avail ourselves to the mighty saving **POWER** of Jesus.
- 7) The second step that we must take in order to be spiritually revived is that we must **REMEMBER** where we **STARTED** (v. 3).
- 8) The church at Sardis roughly represents a period in church **HISTORY** from about **1700** to **1800**.
- 9) The third step that we must take in order to be spiritually revived is to **REPENT** and turn **BACK** to Christ (v. 3).

- 10) Repentance is a threefold process: 1) repentance requires that you **ACKNOWLEDGE** your sin; 2) repentance requires that you **CONFESS** your sin; and 3) repentance requires that you turn **AWAY** from your sin.
- 11) We are incapable of **TURNING** away from sin unless we are fueled by the **POWER** of the Holy **SPIRIT**.
- 12) In Revelation chapter 3 verse 4, **WHITE** is a symbol of **PURITY** and **RIGHTEOUSNESS**.
- 13) Those who are **CLOTHED** in white, will be **REWARDED** for their faithfulness with eternal **LIFE** (v. 5).