NORTH WAY
notes outline

THE 7 LETTERS | CHURCH IN EPHESUS

General Pattern of 7 Revelation "Letters"

- Each letter is anchored in who Jesus is.
- There is often a commendation and/or correction offered.
- There is an invitation to have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying.
- The conquerors receive a specific promise.

Keys to understanding and applying these letters:

- Remember to never let go of the anchor - Jesus.
- Remember that repentance is beautiful not shameful.
- Remember that they are written *for* us not specifically to *us*.
- Remember that the Spirit is speaking to the churches.

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands. "'I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'"
Revelation 2:1-7

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"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."
Revelation 1:8

Tested – to find proof for or put to trial, to examine and learn the genuineness of something.

Scriptures on Testing:
- 1 Thessalonians 5:20-22 – test everything, hold fast what is good ...
- 1 John 4:1 – do not believe every spirit ...
- 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 – Satan disguises himself as an angel of light ...

"For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths."
2 Timothy 4:3-4

Testing for Truth:
1. Does this align with Scripture?
2. Does the Holy Spirit bear witness in you about this?
3. Does this glorify Jesus?
4. Does this lead you to look more like Jesus?

"Does not the ear test words as the palate tastes food?"
Job 12:11

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