

Revelation 3:1-6 – Sardis





The ceremonial court of the bath-gymnasium complex at the archaeological site 211AD



Since 1958, both [Harvard](#) and [Cornell Universities](#) have sponsored annual archeological expeditions to Sardis. These excavations unearthed perhaps the most impressive synagogue in the western diaspora yet discovered from antiquity, yielding over eighty Greek and seven Hebrew inscriptions as well as numerous mosaic floors.



Temple of Artemis – Picture by Ian Scott

Revelation 3:1–6 (NASB95)

1“To the angel of the church in Sardis write: He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.



Steven Curtis Chapman \ Much Of You

How could I stand here
And watch the sun rise
Follow the mountains
Where they touch the sky
Ponder the vastness
And the depths of the sea
And think for a moment
The point of it all was to make much of me
Cause I'm just a whisper
And You are the thunder and

I want to make much of You, Jesus
I want to make much of Your love
I want to live today to give You the praise
That You alone are so worthy of
I want to make much of Your mercy
I want to make much of Your cross
I give You my life
Take it and let it be used
To make much of You

And how can I kneel here
And think of the cross
The thorns and the whip and the nails and the spear
The infinite cost
To purchase my pardon
And bear all my shame
To think I have anything worth boasting in except for Your name

Cause I am a sinner
And You are the Savior

This is Your love, oh God
Not to make much of me
But to send Your own son
So that we could make much of You

John MacArthur in his sermon on Sardis says this: The life, the power of the Holy Spirit was not there, neither was the godly leadership and they desperately needed both. Devoid of the Spirit and devoid of Spirit-filled godly leaders, the church was dead. Here then was a church dominated by the flesh, dominated by sin, dominated by unbelief, populated by the unregenerate, a church populated by the unsaved who did not have the life of God in them. The result was a dead church.

Matthew 13:24–30 (NASB95)

²⁴Jesus presented another parable to them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field.

²⁵“But while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went away.

²⁶“But when the wheat sprouted and bore grain, then the tares became evident also.

²⁷“The slaves of the landowner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’

²⁸“And he said to them, ‘An enemy has done this!’ The slaves said to him, ‘Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?’

29“But he said, ‘No; for while you are gathering up the tares, you may uproot the wheat with them.

30“Allow both to grow together until the harvest; and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, “First gather up the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them up; but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’ ’ ”

Rev 3:2“Wake up, and strengthen the things that remain, which were about to die; for I have not found your deeds completed in the sight of My God.

Mother Theresa told in an interview with Time magazine
“We try to pray through our work by doing it WITH Jesus, FOR Jesus, TO Jesus. That helps us put our whole heart and soul into doing it.

Rev. 3:3“So remember what you have received and heard; and keep it, and repent. Therefore if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come to you.

"Remind Me Who I Am"

When I lose my way,
And I forget my name,
Remind me who I am.
In the mirror all I see,
Is who I don't wanna be,
Remind me who I am.
In the loneliest places,
When I can't remember what grace is.

Tell me once again who I am to You,
Who I am to You.
Tell me lest I forget who I am to You,
That I belong to You.

To You.

When my heart is like a stone,
And I'm running far from home,
Remind me who I am.
When I can't receive Your love,
Afraid I'll never be enough,
Remind me who I am.
If I'm Your beloved,
Can You help me believe it.

Tell me once again who I am to You,

Tell me lest I forget who I am to You.
That I belong to You.

⁴But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

⁵He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the book of life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

Revelation 7:9–11 (NASB95)

⁹After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands;

¹⁰and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures; and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God.

Exodus 32:30–35 (NASB95)

³⁰On the next day Moses said to the people, “You yourselves have committed a great sin; and now I am going up to the LORD, perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.”

³¹Then Moses returned to the LORD, and said, “Alas, this people has committed a great sin, and they have made a god of gold for themselves.

³²“But now, if You will, forgive their sin—and if not, please blot me out from Your book which You have written!”

³³The LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.

³⁴“But go now, lead the people where I told you. Behold, My angel shall go before you; nevertheless in the day when I punish, I will punish them for their sin.”

³⁵Then the LORD smote the people, because of what they did with the calf which Aaron had made.

Ephesians 1:4 (NASB95)

⁴just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

Romans 8:29–30 (NASB95)

²⁹For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

³⁰and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.