"Jesus' Assessment of the Church at Ephesus" 7/29/18
Revelation 2:1-7
Sermon Series- *"Jesus' Message to the Seven Churches of Revelation"*

Economic city with major harbor. Crossroads which brought many riches.
Political metropolis of Asia. Free-city; democratic government
Religious capital of Artemis/Diana worship. Vile, immoral, superstitious
Church- founded by Paul and Priscilla/Acquila in Acts 18-19.

    A. The letter to the church contains the **CORRESPONDENT'S TITLE**
        (Rev 2:1 from 1:12-13a; John 10:28-29; "**One** who holds/stands")

    B. The letter to the church contains Jesus' **COMMENDATION**
        He knows their works:
            1) <u>LABOR</u> - work which is exhausting (Hebrews 6:10)
            2) <u>PATIENCE</u> - better as "triumphant strength" or "endurance"

            3) <u>HATE EVIL</u> - "You who love the Lord, hate evil." Ps 97:10
            4) <u>THEOLOGICAL PURITY</u> – Acts 20:29-32; 2 Tim 2:15
              2 Tim 4:2-4 Church is GULLIBLE today.
            5) <u>PERSEVERED</u> through ministry challenges- 2 Tim 2:10; Heb 6:12

"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9

    C. The letter to the church contains Jesus' **CRITICISM**
            1) They have lost their first Christian <u>LOVE</u>
              (John 13:35; Matthew 7:1-5; 1 Corinthians 13)
            2) They have lost their first love of <u>JESUS</u>
              (Deut 6:5; Matt 22:37; 2 Tim 4:8; John 14:15, 21; 1 John 5:21)

"For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money… lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God" 2 Tim 3:2, 4

    D. The letter to the church contains Jesus' **COUNSEL**
        (<u>Remember</u>, <u>Repent</u>, <u>Do</u> the first works or ELSE) Removed- 5th century

A
    E. The letter to the church contains Jesus' **CLOSURE**
        (Do you have an ear to HEAR? Tree of life in God's Paradise!)
"Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" 1 John 5:5

Going   *God wants you to REMEMBER, REPENT, and to DO works that*
Deeper   *are in accordance with that first love you had for Jesus!*

          Our Vision- Striving to be Disciples who make Disciples