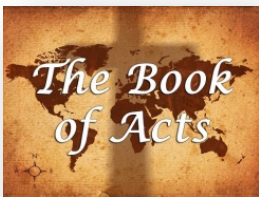




The Church Age



Ephesus
Smyrna
Pergamos
Thyatira
Sardis
Philadelphia
Laodicea

Rapture
↑
Rev.4:1



The letters to seven churches of Asia Minor found in Revelation chapters 2-3 are generally recognized to be symbolic of the chronological history of the Christian church from the time of the apostles till the time Jesus comes back for His church which is called the Rapture. In this chapter we will look at the history and the message given to each church and how it relates to the overall church today. It also will look at the corresponding Kingdom Parables that Jesus taught in Matthew 13. The parables are chronologically sequenced, and directly related to the seven churches of Revelation, thus giving us further revelational insight.

Note: The message to the church beginning with Ephesus not only did it apply to that church, but to those who would come after it. By the time the last of the churches, which is Laodicea, came into the prophetic picture all of the warnings applied to it also. It is no wonder that in the world today you can still find churches exhibiting the problems, and /or blessings found in the first six church ages preceding it.