



Revelation 2:1-7(NIV)

May 7, 2023

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. ⁵ Consider how far you have fallen!

Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

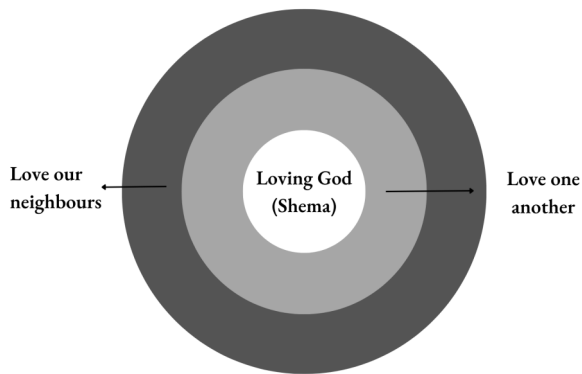
Introduction

“Write therefore what you see – what is now and what will take place later. The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks is this: the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches – and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.” Revelation 1:19–20

“I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance.” Revelation 2:2a

- Deeds
- Toil
- Perseverance

“Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. So be on your guard!” Acts 20:28–31



“The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.”
1 Timothy 1:5

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.” 1 Corinthians 13:1–3

Service to God without love for God quickly becomes idolatry.

“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:18

1. Remember

2. Repent

3. Take Action

“to him who overcomes I will give the right to eat of the tree of life which is in the paradise of God.” Revelation 2:7