

A grayscale photograph of a person reading a newspaper. The person's hands are visible holding the paper. The newspaper text is mostly illegible but appears to be a news article. Overlaid on the image is white text.

Extra! Extra! Jesus Rebukes Hardworking
Doctrinally Pure Church and
Calls them to Repent.

Revelation 2:1-7

*Extra! Extra! Jesus Rebukes Hardworking Doctrinally
Pure Church and Calls them to Repent!*

⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ 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.

I. Jesus sees the good deeds we do vv. 1-3.

“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. ² “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. ³ I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary.

- Vs. 1 speaks of Jesus’ authority & presence in the Church.
- Unfortunately confronting false teachers is necessary.

II. Jesus sees the condition of our heart and He knows why we do what we do vv. 4-5.

⁴ But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵ 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.

- Some where along the way love ceased to be their motivation to work v. 4.
- Jesus calls us to return to the love we had for Him at the beginning.

III. Jesus hates the deeds of the wicked v. 6.

⁶ Yet this you have: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

- The Nicolaitans were most likely followers of Nicolaus, who was among the first to be appointed a deacon in church history (See Acts 6:1-5). He embraced a worldly philosophy known as Gnosticism and brought it into the church.

IV. Jesus rewards our faithfulness v. 7.

⁷ 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.'

- Christians must choose to pursue what God offers rather than what Satan offers.

Revelation 12:11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.