



Wake Up! Reviving a Dead Church

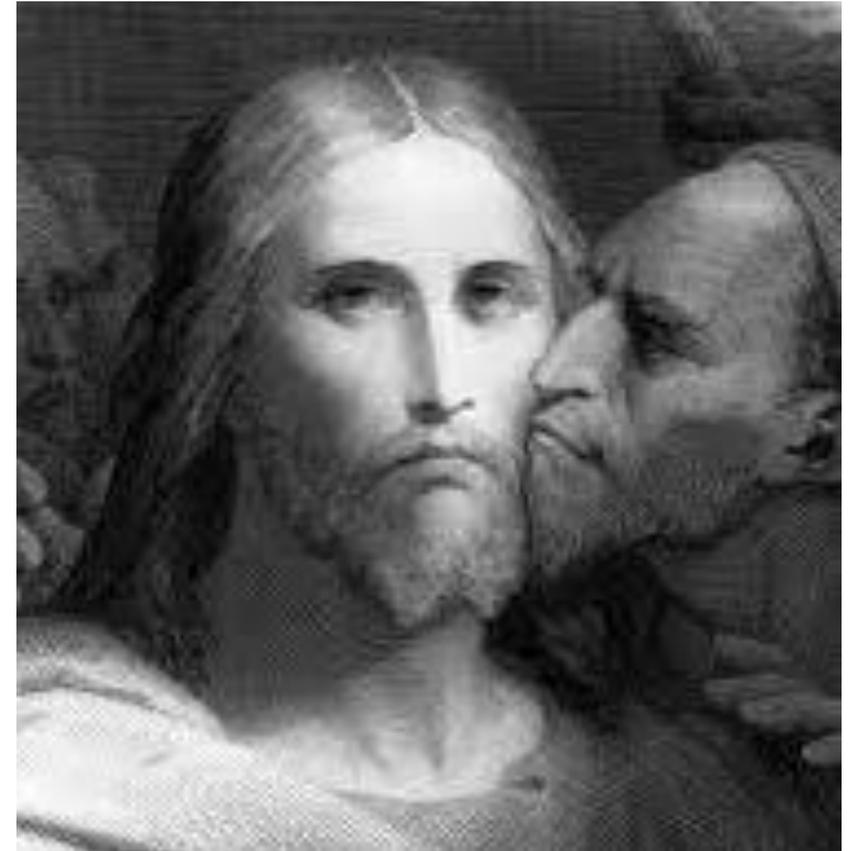
Revelation 3:4-6

Jesus shows Sardis the deception of their appearance. (Rev 3:1)

1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.

"I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead.

- Despite its lively appearance, the church in Sardis is deemed "dead" by Christ due to its lack of genuine faith.
- Judas Iscariot outwardly followed Christ while being driven by selfishness, hypocrisy, and dishonesty, showing the importance of genuine faith and self-examination.



Jesus shows Sardis the deception of their appearance. (Rev 3:1)

- Authentic faith is the foundation for spiritual life; without it, one risks eternal separation from God, fruitless living, and alignment with darkness rather than God's purpose.
- Paul's command in 2 Corinthians 13:5 to examine our faith is a crucial call to go beyond superficial spirituality, aiming for a life transformed by God's grace rather than settling for mere religious appearances.



Jesus emphasizes an urgency for Sardis to wake up. (Rev 3:2-3)

2Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. 3Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

- Christ urgently warns the church in Sardis to "wake up" and strengthen their faith, reminding us that spiritual vigilance is essential to avoid sudden judgment.
- There may come a time when we've slept through the alarm one too many times. We must be vigilant, examine ourselves, and ensure that our faith is genuine. It's a wake-up call we can't afford to miss.



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- The urgency of genuine faith and repentance is critical; spiritual complacency or false belief not only risks eternal separation from God but also harms our current world by failing to live out the Gospel and fulfill the Great Commission.
- The Christian life is an ongoing journey that requires us to be intentional, disciplined, and most importantly, a heart that yearns for a closer relationship with God.



Jesus makes a promise to the faithful remnant in Sardis (Rev 3:4-6)

4Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. 5The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. 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.'

- Jesus offers hope to the faithful in a faltering church, promising those with unsoiled character and genuine faith a permanent place in the "book of life."
- No matter how dark things may get, we are reminded that God's presence endures, His promises are true, and His protection is certain for those who belong to Him.



promise

Jesus makes a promise to the faithful remnant in Sardis (Rev 3:4-6)

- In a world full of distractions and compromises, keeping our eyes fixed on this ultimate promise is not just vital—it's imperative.
- The faithful remnant in Sardis is not an ancient anomaly; it's a timeless invitation to each one of us today. Let's accept it wholeheartedly.

