



***Serving God Without
Your First Love***

Revelation 2:1-7

ASIA MINOR

The Seven Churches

Pergamum

Thyatira

Sardis

Smyrna

Ephesus

Philadelphia

Laodicea

Chios

Patmos

Rhodes

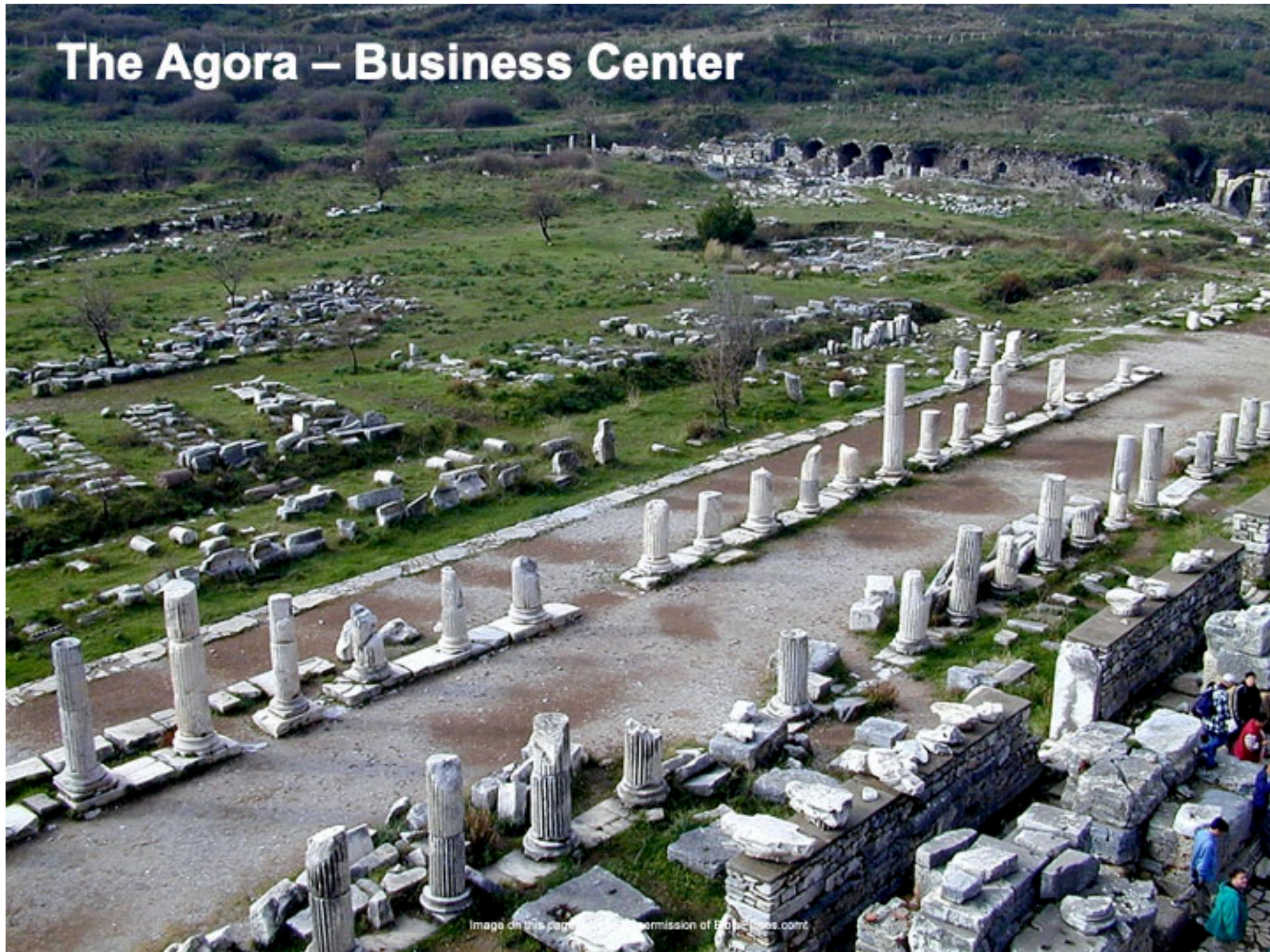


Appian Way



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The Agora – Business Center



Celsus Library



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Amphitheater



Ruins - Temple To Hadrian



Ruins - Temple to Domitian





Ruins - Temple to Artemis

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Seven Churches of Revelation 2-3

- **Who planted these churches?**
- **How long ago were these established?**
- **Where are these seven churches located?**
- **How many of the seven churches are good churches?**

Background of the Church in Ephesus

- **What do we know about the ancient church in Ephesus?**
- **What do the ancient ruins of the city of Ephesus tell us about the church in the city?**

Christ Speaks To The Pastor of Ephesus

Revelation 2:1

- **Who is the “One” in verse 1?**
- **To what does the symbol “seven angels” refer?**
- **To what does the symbol “seven stars” refer?**

The Commendation

Revelation 2:2-3

- 1. To what does “deeds” refer? Give a few examples.**

- 2. To what does “toil” refer? Give a few examples.**

The Commendation

Revelation 2:2-3, 6

- 3. To what does “perservered” refer? Give a few examples.**
- 4. To what does “cannot tolerate evil men” refer? Give a few examples. To what sin does verse 6 refer?**

The Commendation

Revelation 2:2-3

- 5. To what does “put to the test those who call themselves apostles” refer? Give a few examples.**

- 6. To what does “have perseverance and have endured for My name’s sake” refer? Give a few examples.**

The Commendation

Revelation 2:2-3

- **To what does “did not grow weary” refer? Give a few examples.**

- **Now, would you like to have been part of that church?**

The Crisis

Revelation 2:4

- **What is the meaning of the Greek work translated as “left” in the phrase “left your first love”?**
- **What is the first view as to the meaning of “first love”? Why is this view wrong?**

The Crisis

Revelation 2:4

- **What is the second view as to the meaning of “first love”?**
- **How does Deuteronomy 6:4 and Mark 12:28-30 support your statement above? Why?**

Crisis – Illustration of Church in Corinth

Revelation 2:4

- **What does the illustration of 1 Corinthians reveal about the those who attended the church in Corinth?**
- **What problem existed in the church at Corinth? What do 1 Corinthians 16:14, 22 reveal?**

Crisis – Illustration of Church in Corinth

Revelation 2:4

- **What is the Greek word for “love” in 1 Corinthians 16:22?**
- **What does this Greek word and their sins reveal the kind of love some of these people had for one another?**
- **What was their root problem? Remember 1 John 4:20.**

Crisis – Illustration of Jesus and Peter

Revelation 2:4

- **In John 21:15-17, why did Jesus ask three times if Peter loved Him? What was Jesus calling him to do?**
- **What must be true of you before you serve Jesus?**
- **Jesus called Peter to serve, yet, what kind of love did Peter have for Jesus?**

Crisis – Understanding Revelation 2:4

Revelation 2:4

- **Revelation 2:5 reveals that Jesus was going to remove the church unless they returned to their first love. Yet, Jesus was going to use Peter, who did not love Jesus with a first love. What does this reveal about the love of most of the people in the church in Ephesus?**
- **When Paul warned the Corinthians to have phileo love for Jesus, that means some of them might have what kind of love?**

Crisis – Understanding Revelation 2:4

Revelation 2:4

- **In all three examples, God is calling us to have what kind of love?**

The Cure

Revelation 2:5

- **What is the meaning of remember?**
- **Why should we repent? To what sin does this refer?**
- **To what does the “deeds you did at first” refer?**

