

Revelation -4

Looking ahead to chapters 2-3...

1. Read the chapters at least twice
2. Look at the maps in your Bible index and Discover where the seven churches were located.
3. Note the particular way in which the Lord identifies Himself to each church.
4. Note what He says is right with each church...notice also what he states as being in error with each church.
5. What does the Lord urge each church to do?
6. What promises and judgments does He offer for obedience and/or for disobedience?
7. Note that each church still has a candlestick (lampstand!). What does that tell us about testimony in individual companies?

Viewpoint on chapters 2-3

1. Many scholars have seen the seven churches as prophetic pictures of the church age. The notes in the Scofield Bible will show you how this goes. No doubt the general tenor of things is indicated in this manner but it is thought by this writer that this view is only general and cannot be maintained particularly.
2. Some think that since this age is long over and these seven churches are no more, that the message of the passage is purely historical. We do not agree to this.
3. Our impression is that in every part of the present age there are representatives of these seven churches among us. Therefore the particular teachings apply as and where needed. One age may be characterized by more churches than another but the emphasis is that from all of these we can glean lessons that help us more fully honor the Lord.

Concepts

In the light of your reading and thinking:

1. What sort of fellowship most honors the Lord?
2. What are the trials that are most likely to render a fellowship unserviceable?
3. What are the most needful steps in maintaining purity and truth in a local company?
4. What are the standards by which we are able to check our growth?