



Reviving a Declining Church

Revelation 2:1-7

I. The Lord Praises the Church (Vs. 1-3)

A. *"I know your works"*

B. Jesus began His praising the church for positive points.

C. Our Lord commended the church for their labor, patience, and faithfulness.

(1 Thess. 1:3) ...remembering without ceasing your work of faith, labor of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ ...

D. Praise is positive & up-lifting; complaining is negative & depressing.

E. Look for good things about our church, your marriage and your family.

II. The Lord Pointed out a Problem in the Church (v.4)

- A. The church looked good on the outside, but had a serious problem.
- B. When our love declines for the Lord, we stray from Him.
- C. When love declines in a marriage, it becomes drudgery.
- D. When love declines in a church, everything becomes mechanical, lifeless and just a form.



III. The Lord Revealed a Prescription for Revival in the church.

- A. Remember: When you first began your walk with the Lord?
- B. Repent: means to turn around make an about-face.
- C. Return: Come back to where you once were as a Child of God, as a husband or wife, as a church member.

1 John 1:8-9

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.