

LifeNotes

Is Holiness Really Possible?

The Comatose Congregation

May 16, 2010

Revelation 3:1-6

Q. What has been the **greatest act of Almighty God** you have witnessed during **your lifetime**?

- Genesis 19.

Revelation 3:1-6

- The church Jesus calls "dead" (Sardis) has a **reputation** of being alive.

Q. So what does a dead church look like?

Churches often go through four stages of life.

1. The Movement Stage.
2. The Magnificence Stage.
3. The Monument Stage.
4. The Mausoleum Stage

How can we avoid ending up like them?

1st – You and I need to maintain a high level of **commitment.**

- Its people had begun to compartmentalize church.
- Church wasn't the most **important** part of their lives.

Notice what happens with a church as it goes through it's stages:

- At the Movement Stage = a church has a **nearly 100% involvement**
- At the Magnificence Stage = it has **dropped to 50 to 75%** involvement
- But at the Monument Stage = (Sardis) **10 to 20%** involvement

The Point IS:

- The more **involved** our church is – the less likely we are to be like Sardis.
- We must commit **personally** to **make things happen for Jesus**.
- There's no excuse for any of us to sit through church and not be involved in some form of ministry for Jesus.

The 2nd problem that plagued the Church of Sardis: They didn't **walk with Jesus.**

- Acts 4:1-31

Acts 4:13- *“When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, **ordinary** men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had **been with Jesus**.”*

- **Acts 4:31-** *“After they **prayed**, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all **filled** with the Holy Spirit and **spoke** the word of God boldly.”*

Q. What is the **behavior of a church** who “walks with God” and “thinks like God?”

Q. How are **churches and Christians** like a faucet?

- **Without the **reservoir** of Christ flowing through our lives we are useless.**

So what do I do?

- **Open your life completely to the filling of the Holy Spirit.**
- **Find an area of serving God and **commit** yourself to being used by God for His glory.**
- ****Speak** the truth of God boldly!**