

WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

- Revelation 1:10-20
- Golden lampstands
 - Old Testament: Ex 25:31-40
 - Single stand, 7 lamps
 - Gold – great value
 - Purpose – to give light
- Revelation – 7 lampstands, each a lamp or candle
- Christ in the midst of them

WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

- The lamps are the (local) churches
- The church
 - To be a light
- How important is light?
 - 1 John 1:5
 - 2 Cor 4:4, 6
 - Mt 5:14-17
 - Phil 2:14-16
- If fail to be light, then failing purpose

SEVEN CHURCHES

- Ought to be light in their respective communities
- Grave danger
 - Pergamos
 - “sword of His mouth”
 - Sardis
 - “coming to them as a thief”
 - Ephesus
 - “remove your lampstand”
 - No light where a lampstand has been removed

EPHESUS – REVELATION 2:1-7

- Commended
 - Works
 - Labor
 - Perseverance
 - They don't put up with those who are evil
 - They've tested those who say they are apostles and are not
 - They have persevered and have patience
 - They have labored for Jesus' name's sake and have not become weary

“YOU HAVE LEFT YOUR FIRST LOVE”

- 40-45 years after gospel first preached by Paul
- There is a greater love – their first love
- In 2nd or 3rd generation
- They need to repent and go back to their first love
- What kind of love did they have in the beginning?

EPHESUS' BEGINNINGS

- Love of the truth
 - Acts 19:1-6
 - Upon hearing, they obeyed (v.6)
 - Ax 19:9-10
 - Gave heed to apostles' doctrine in midst of persecution
- Love of righteousness
 - Ax 19:19
 - Great turning
- Love of brethren
 - Ax 20:36-38
 - Eph 1:15

EPHESUS' BEGINNINGS

- What Paul taught them
 - Acts 20:21
 - The truth that had saved them
 - Acts 20:27
 - To love the whole counsel of God
 - Acts 20:32
 - That the word of God would build them up
 - That the word of God would lead them home
- Paul demonstrated to them his love for the truth, and taught them to love the truth
- This is commendable love

WHAT NOW?

- You were up there in your love; now you are down here
- This is no small thing to the Lord
- In great danger now
- Repent
- Do the first works
- Else, the Lord will come *quickly* and remove their candlestick

REVIVE YOUR LOVE

- Hear the truth!
- Remember
- Resolve
- Do
- ...else...

LOVE OF GOD AND RIGHTEOUSNESS

- At first...
 - Ps 119:117
 - Jn 14:15
 - Rom 6:18-19
 - 1 Jn 2:15-17
 - Rom 12:9
 - 1 Tim 6:11
- But later...
 - 1 Cor 5:1
 - 2 Cor 6:14
 - 2 Pet 2:20



LOVE OF THE TRUTH

- At first...
 - Ps 119:97
 - 2 Jn 9-11
- But later...
 - Gal 1:6-7
 - 2 Cor 11:4



LOVE OF BRETHREN AND THE LOST

- At first...
 - 1 Pet 1:22
 - 1 Pet 4:8-10
 - Col 3:12-13
 - Col 4:12
- But later...
 - 1 Cor 6:6-8



WHEN THE LIGHT GOES OUT

- A church once there, but no longer
- As if a light has gone out
- I Tim 3:15
- Keep your light shining by *growing* in your love of God and righteousness, your love of the truth, and your love of brethren and the lost