

HE WHO HAS AN EAR

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Rev 2:7

7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

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Rev 2:11

11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

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Rev 2:17

17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

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Rev 2:29

29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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Rev 3:6

6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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Rev 3:13

13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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Rev 3:22

22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

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- To hear is to take heed unto what you have heard.
- To hear is to apply what you have heard to your life.
- To hear is to do.
- To hear is to act on.
- Everyone has a pair of ears with which we hear sound. God is not referring to the physical ears for all have ears. All hear except the deaf. God is referring to obedience. He is referring to those who prove that they have heard by putting it to work.

Isa 1:19

19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;
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It pays to be obedient. The hearing ears always enjoy God's favour and blessing, because he is obedient to what he heard.

"He who has an ear, let him hear what the spirit says to the church", reveals that God does not force people to obey him. He demands willing obedience. It is therefore necessary that one make up his mind to obey God.

8 REASONS WHY WE MUST OBEY GOD

1. God is our creator and God

Gen 1:1

1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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Read also Ps. 104

2. God is our caring Saviour and Father.

Luke 1:47

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

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1 Tim 4:10

10(and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe.

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Titus 1:4

4 To Titus, my true son in our common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

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3. God is judge of all mankind.

Ps 94:12

12 Blessed is the man you discipline, O LORD, the man you teach from your law;

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4. God is love - God lives in love, speaks out of love and acts in love

1 John 4:16

16 And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.

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5. God sees what we don't see, and knows what we don't know.

Isa 42:9

9 See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you."

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Isa 46:10

10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

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6. You can never know and understand a product more than the manufacturer. Man, his life, the heavens and the earth, and all therein, are all God's idea, baby, project and product. No one can be wiser than God! No one can know about these things more than God. We all need to pay attention to what God says about us and his creation.

Ps 24:1

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;

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7. Men and all creation were created for definite purposes.

Isa 46:10-11

10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please. 11 From the east I summon a bird of prey; from a far-off land, a man to fulfill my purpose. What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that will I do.

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8. Man and all things were created for God's pleasure.

Rev 4:11

11 "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being."

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WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT GOD

1. The supernatural power of God is released when one is walking in obedience to specific instructions of God.
2. Only the willing and obedient eat the good of the land.

Isa 1:19

19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;

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3. The stiff-necked get destroyed.

Prov 13:13

13 He who scorns instruction will pay for it, but he who respects a command is rewarded.

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Prov 13:18

18 He who ignores discipline comes to poverty and shame, but whoever heeds correction is honored.

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Prov 15:10

10 Stern discipline awaits him who leaves the path; he who hates correction will die.

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Prov 29:1

A man who remains stiff-necked after many rebukes will suddenly be destroyed--without remedy.

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4. God chooses the method that is best in his own judgement. His ways may look or sound stupid and foolish, but effective. It is therefore, not the method God uses, but the result that matters.

5. *“Whatever he tells you, do it”* (Jn 2:5) Don't rationalize the word of God. Don't use your human logic. God's methods sometimes are illogical and unnatural.

6. God's laws and principles are supernatural because God is supernatural.

In the book of revelation, the Apostle John was given a message for the seven churches in Asia Minor which were named in the course of the messages. These churches also speak prophetically of the future experiences of the church of Jesus Christ from the time the prophecy was given.

There is so much to learn from the messages to the churches. The messages are still relevant to us today. If you have ears, hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches today.

WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING TO THE CHURCHES

- (1) Maintain your zeal for God. Don't quench the fire or allow it to go dim.

Rev 2:1-7

2:1 "To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands: 2 I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked men, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. 3 You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary. 4 Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. 5 Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. 6 But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. 7 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

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(2) Don't allow temptations, trials and persecution to weaken or destroy your faith. Be prepared for more, for they will come in various forms and sizes.

Rev 2:8-11

8 "To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. 9 I know your afflictions and your poverty-yet you are rich! I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you the crown of life. 11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

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(3) Don't pollute yourself with food sacrificed to idols and immorality. Live clean. Idolatry and sin must be far from your life.

Rev 2:12-17

12 "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. 13 I know where you live-where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city-where Satan lives. 14 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality. 15 Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. 16 Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, I will give

some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

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(4) Be grounded in the word of God. Don't have itching ears for strange teachings, especially those that encourage sin and worldliness, and explain away the truth of God's word. Don't be deceived by false prophets especially with their miracles.

Rev 2:18-22

18 "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. 19 I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first. 20 Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. 22 So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways.

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(5) Don't be a hypocrite. Be a practitioner of the word of God - walk in obedience before God. Be a living Christian.

Rev 3:1-6

3:1 "To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. 2 Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. 3 Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. 4 Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. 5 He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. 6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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(6) Continue to keep the word of God and don't deny his name no matter what. Remain faithful and loyal to your Saviour no matter the situation or temptation. Endure patiently. Don't let anyone take your crown.

Rev 3:7-13

7 *"To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. 8 I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. 9 I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars-I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. 10 Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth. 11 I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. 12 Him who overcomes I will make a pillar in the temple of my God. Never again will he leave it. I will write on him the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on him my new name. 13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*

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(7) You must not be lukewarm. There is no sitting on the fence. You are either in or out. Don't allow success and prosperity to deceive you - They don't reveal your true spiritual state. Prosperity and success is not a proof of holiness.

Rev 3:14-22

14 *"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. 15 I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm- neither hot nor cold-I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. 19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. 20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. 21 To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."*

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CONCLUSION

Let him that have ears, hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches. Every word of God makes sense. God means everything he says, and says only what he means. Do not be stiff-necked towards the word of God. "I don't care" attitude will only lead you to sudden destruction.

Don't wait for God to speak twice on a matter before you obey. People who have ears respond immediately to the word of God. Respond to the words of God to the Churches. Don't delay. Don't be hardhearted. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.