

## I. Introduction

### 1. The Form and Structure of the Letters to the Seven Churches

Introduction of Jesus - Commendation - Rebuke - Exhortation and Call to Repentance - Warning - Promise of Blessing to the One Who Overcomes - Exhortation to Hear What the Spirit Says to the Churches

### 2. Introduction to the City of Ephesus and the Church in Ephesus

## II. Main Body

### 1. The Description of Jesus Presented to the Church in Ephesus (v. 1)

### 2. Commendation of the Church in Ephesus (v. 2-3)

Jesus knows everything about the church (Psalm 139:1-4).

This gives both reverence toward Jesus and comfort and encouragement.

1) He commended the deeds and hard work of the church in Ephesus.

2) He commended their perseverance.

3) He commended them for having discernment and not falling into the deception of evil people and false teachings.

Heresies at that time: Gnosticism, Docetism, and the Nicolaitans (1 John 4:2-3; 2 John 1:10-11)

They were able to overcome because they had been well taught through Paul

(Acts 20:29-30, 31-32).

4) The church in Ephesus hated what Jesus hates (v. 6).

### 3. Rebuke of the Church in Ephesus

1. The church in Ephesus had abandoned its first love (v. 4).

As they devoted all their energy to fighting heresy and distinguishing truth from falsehood and good from evil, the church became centered on work rather than love.  
- "People over work, and God over people."

Those who love the Lord love their neighbors, the Word, and the church.

2. Repent and restore your first love (v. 5).

If they do not restore their first love, the Lord will remove their lampstand.

This means that the church can no longer continue to exist.

A church without love for the Lord and love for brothers and sisters cannot endure.

## III. Conclusion

Let us become a church that is praised by the Lord, a church that restores its first love for Him.

**Bible  
Memorization**

**A VERSE FOR THIS WEEK**

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.”  
(John 15:9, ESV)

**Bible  
Reading**

1/5(Mon)	1/6(Tue)	1/7(Wed)	1/8(Thur)	1/9(Fri)	1/10(Sat)	1/11(Sun)
New	Year's	Bible	Reading	Schedule	Resumes	on 1/12

**QT**

**Quiet Time Passage**

1/5(Mon)	1/6(Tue)	1/7(Wed)	1/8(Thur)	1/9(Fri)	1/10(Sat)	1/11(Sun)
1 John 3:13-24	1 John 4:1-12	1 John 4:13-21	1 John 5:1-12	1 John 5:13-21	2 John 1:1-13	3 John 1:1-15

**Sharing  
Questions**

1. Among today's sermon message, share one thing that especially gave you grace or a new insight.
2. What was it that the Lord praised about the church in Ephesus? If the Lord were to come to our church, what aspects do you think He would praise?
3. The Lord rebuked the church in Ephesus for abandoning its first love. What characteristics would be seen in the life of someone who has their first love for the Lord or has restored it? Explain by comparing it to the 모습 of a man and woman who are in love.
4. How can we restore our first love for the Lord? Take turns sharing just one idea each.