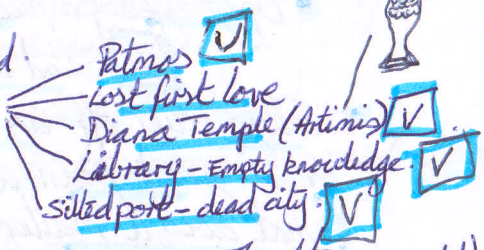


College Class
The Seven Churches of Asia

SARDIS

- Prayer - Mystery of the Gospel
- Hymn 347 (219) O my Saviour lifted
- Item ?
- Reading Rev 3.1-6.



✓ situated on nearly inaccessible hill (almost ^{Thought} impregnable)

- Overseeing Hermus Valley.
- Proud capital of Lydia
people Arrogant / Over confident.
- They were sure (too sure)
No-one could scale this hill.
- Only one point of access
Narrow neck of land easily fortified.
- But enemy came in 649 BC & again 218 BC
and took Sardis.

(one unwatched for weak point - a crack in ~~at~~ rock wall the one chance in a thousand for a night attack by skillful climbers to deal crushing blow).

- The city had grown too big for hill.
when Rev written the city was being deserted for another location
(A ~~slow~~ slow but sure death)
- In AD 17 city partly destroyed by an earthquake.
• Destruction as a thief in night.

- (VI) - The Sevenfold Spirit (The Son of God).
• I know you "I know thy works that thou hast a name that though lives, and art dead"
• You have a good reputation (past glory).
But are lifeless.

Chorismatic
lively
Worship!

- What is a reputation worth without ^{truth} life? It is a false thing
- It is a mask covering ugliness
- Open eyes painted on a corpse!

Till Blind man in Great escape tries to pick up ^{coin.}
 • Who is better off an evil man with a good rep.
or a good man who is talked evil of?
(What does it matter what men think - But what God!)

- But you may say 'I'm at peace - not troubled'
Don't mistake that peace for life -
it is the PEACE of a GRAVEYARD!

v2 Watch

Are you asleep on duty?

Do people think you're awake? Eyes Painted
on the centary.
the look out.

(sardis didn't see the attacks coming).
and the enemy will overtake you too.

- Are you just a nominal christian?

- Hollow, empty souls
- Prayers just words

Pray [Luke 18 v 11] ∴ prayed with himself
 Proud Pharissee

- As the body without the soul is dead

so the soul without Holy Ghost life in ~~the~~ your spirit

- A person may participate in outward forms

Bow in prayer

Sing Hymns

Read Bible

Even service in church

(put out tables & chairs)
But like a dead machine in house (washing machine
toaster etc)
Rather than a living child in a family.

- [ILL] Plane flying over Greece on auto pilot. (seemed alive).
Non responsive - jet scrambled.
~~jet~~ had rapidly de-pressurized
People froze or suffocated.
Eventually ditched in sea - all lost.

- (V3) Remember what you have received & heard.
So many Gospel talks/sermons/lessons/testimonies

[IV] The same fire which melts the wax
hardens the clay!
(gospel message will either save or harden heart)

- Repent! (Hold fast - Strengthen the good that remains)
Non-Christian. Christian don't slip - Build on good practice

- But if you don't watch, ^{christ} come as a thief
[Luke 12. 34-40]

[V] Lamp. [Matt 25. 1-13] Do you hold a lamp but no oil?

(V4) Although the pronouncement is dreadful
He does leave a promise & encouragement.

(V5) • White garments for those not defiled.
White - purity/holiness/righteousness
clothing

[V6] White sheet of paper ill. [inserted] Need new sheet
Pencil with rubber
(Conversion)
Blot your copybook saying

• These are worthy in Christ's righteousness.

- The book of life 'I will not blot out his name from the book of life'
Christians or not? Which
[V7] College class register • God will leave us to blot our own names
out by our unbelief & rebellion.

- But if you find Salvation through the Cross of Christ
Your name sounded in heaven (echo)
before Father & angels! (in eternity)
- You'll find life! eyes open - ears open - Do you hear?
what the Spirit says (v6)
☐ Grave broken open!
- Many men have lived whose names are now long forgotten.
 - Name on Grave stones worn away / Broken / buried.
 - Records ~~are~~ lost or ~~are~~ perished.
 - Even God has forgotten as it were (They're unsaved).
- Don't be like them. - ^{to}
Make your name known to Christ
Ask Him to confess you before the father
And He will be your Advocate
your Go-between
 - And if He speaks up for you
who can condemn you?!
!
- You'll then be like the city set on a hill ~~whose~~ [&] the
light ^{on stand that} cannot be hidden that had talked of
in sermon on the mount.