

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Revelation 3:1-6**.
- B. Having you ever seen "walking death" Jesus has, and He didn't like it.
- C. The congregation at Sardis looked good on the outside, but on the inside there was very little life.
- D. Jesus tells them of their problems and how to solve them.

I. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CITY OF SARDIS.

- A. A great commercial city.
- B. A great woolen industry specializing in a costly black wool as also was Laodicea.
- C. Fortunately, there was no emperor worship there.
- D. They worshipped Cybele, the goddess of frenzy.
- E. All of this together makes Sardis a loose-living, pleasure-loving, luxury-laden city of decadence.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CHURCH IN SARDIS.

- A. Situation of the church: They had a name that they were alive, but they were dead.
- B. Verse 2: Wake up, they were not ready to meet God,
Strengthen; some things were not dead.
Deeds not complete; just simply quit.
- C. Verse 3: Remember; what you have received.
Keep; doing what you have at first, complete your deeds.
Repent; from the current way of living.
- D. Verse 4: Few people; have not died, same as things in v2.
They are worthy; when we do the best we can (1Jn. 1:7).
- E. Verse 5: He who overcomes; clothed in white garments.
will not erase his name written in the book of life.
will confess his name before the Father.
- F. Remember that the church in Sardis looked from the outside as if they were alive (nice building, song books, lights, etc.).

III. LESSONS TO BE LEARNED FROM SARDIS.

- A. Remember the greatest commandment (Mt. 22:37-40).
- B. One can be worthy to walk with God, if we:
 - 1. Remember (2:5).
 - 2. Keep, hold fast (Phil. 2:16).
 - 3. Repent (2Cor. 7:10).
- C. We can fool ourselves into thinking we are alive, but we are dead.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Let us continue to examine ourselves (2Cor. 13:5).
- B. Strengthen the things that are not dead, that is, work on your good points.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.