



May 9, 2010

Celebration Service
Sunday 8:45 am

Pastor David Mitchell

The Sleeping Church { Sardis } Revelation 3:1-6 Breathing New Life into a Dying Church

❖ **Admit that we can be deceived into thinking our spiritual life is better than it is.**

Revelation 3:1

I know your deeds, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.

Examples: Matthew 6:2-5; Matthew 7:3-5; Matthew 7:21-23

❖ **I need to wake up _____ to areas of spiritual growth to prepare for Christ's return.** Revelation 3:2, 3

I John 2:28-3:3; II Timothy 4:7, 8. (See Digging Deeper for growth areas.)

- *Strengthen* them while they remain. Be strong _____ in them.
- *Complete* them as accountable to God. Be accountable _____ for them.
- *Remember* what He has already given you. Be mindful _____ of them.
- *Keep* them until He returns. Be faithful _____ with them.
- *Repent* in areas that you have sinned. Be forgiven _____ to grow in them.

❖ **Join with those few who live a pure worthy _____ life.**

Revelation 3:4

But you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their garments; and they will walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

❖ **Overcome so you can enjoy the promises of God.**

Revelation 3:5, 6

He who overcomes will thus be clothed in white garments; and I will not erase his name from the Book of Life, and I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

- *White garment*, Our purity _____ in heaven.
- *Not erase his name*, Our security _____ in heaven.
- *Confess his name before My Father*, Our praise _____ in heaven.

Digging Deeper

Here are some areas that the Bible teaches us to “be alert” to so that we are fully awake, alive and spiritually growing in them before Christ returns. No one wants to fear Christ’s return like a thief in the night. Rather, Jesus wants us to have hope in His return (I John 2:28-3:3) and to have a love for His return (II Timothy 4:7, 8).

The following scriptures teach us how to live a growing faith by telling us to what we need to be alert. To be alert is the opposite of being asleep in our faith. Look for the words “be alert’ or “be watchful” and discern for what you are to be alert.

Matthew 24:42-47

Matthew 26:38-41

Acts 20:29-31

Romans 13:11-14

I Thessalonians 5:1-6

I Peter 5:8

II Peter 3:10-13

In the last days, to avoid being deceived, what warning should you consider from II Timothy 3:1-5?

Read about the importance of having the white robe. What do you learn about our future home in heaven as we wear the white robes from the following passages?

Revelation 6; 9-11 Note how these people still remember the things on earth.

Revelation 7:9-14

Revelation 19:7-9

John says your name will not be erased from the Book of Life. This is a promise that once you are saved, you cannot lose it. But, we must be alert and awake to the preceding areas to assure we are really saved.

What does Romans 8:28-39 promise you about your salvation?

What does I Peter 1:3-7 promise you about your salvation?