

Death of the Loveless Church

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Revelation 2-3.

B. Love is absolutely important. (I Corinthians 13:1-7)

II. A church that is being persecuted is being purified. (Revelation 1:9-20)

III. Laodicea was accused of leaving their first love.

A. Laodicea did many things for Christ and were doctrinally strong, but they missed the basic thing—love.

B. Their response was to be to...

1. Remember.

2. Repent.

3. Repeat.

C. Losing love is the first step toward destruction.

IV. Pergamum compromised with the world.

A. When a church loses its love for God it starts loving the world. (I Corinthians 6)

B. Believers ought to be equally yoked. The church should be equally yoked.

V. Thyatira tolerated sin.

VI. Sardis was nothing but a program. This is a dead church.

VII. Once you tolerate sin, you have no message. Losing love starts the process of death for a church.

Application questions:

1. How can the health of a church be deceptive?

2. Why is love so central to the life of a Christian community?

3. How do the churches of Revelation show the process of decline that a community can go through? Explain.
