

HAVE YOU LEFT YOUR FIRST LOVE ?

Revelation 2:1-5 “**Unto the angel of the church** of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks; **I know thy works**, and thy **labour**, and thy **patience**, and how **thou canst not bear them which are evil**: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and **hast patience**, and for my name's sake hast **laboured**, and hast **not fainted**. **Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee**, because **thou hast left thy first love**. **Remember** therefore from whence thou art **fallen**, and **repent**, and **do the first works**; or else **I will come unto thee quickly**, and will **remove thy candlestick out of his place**, except thou **repent**.”

I. Jesus Commendation for the Church.

1. This was a **SERVING** Church. [vs. 2] “**I know thy works**, and thy **labour**”

Luke 10:38-42 “Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. And she had a sister called **Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word**. But **Martha was cumbered about much serving**, and came to him, and said, **Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone?** bid her therefore that **she help me**. And Jesus answered and said unto her, **Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things**: But **one thing is needful**: and **Mary hath chosen that good part**, which shall **not be taken away from her**.”

2. This was a **STEADFAST** Church. [vs. 2] “I know.....thy **patience**”

3. This was a doctrinally **SOUND** Church. [vs. 2] “**thou canst not bear them which are evil**”

II. Jesus Condemnation for the Church.

[v. 4] “**thou hast left thy first love**”

Question: What in **THE WORLD** would **anyone** leave **JESUS** for? **Answer:** **THE WORLD!**

1 John 2:15-16 “**Love not the world**, neither the things that are in the **world**. **If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him**. For all that is in the **world**, the **lust of the flesh**, and the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**, is **not of the Father**, but is of the **world**.”

III. Jesus Council for the Church.

1. **Remember** [vs. 5] “**Remember** therefore from whence thou art **fallen**...”

2. **Repent** [vs. 5] “**Repent**....”

3. **Return** [vs. 5] “**do the first works**....”

4. Or Jesus will **Remove** His **influence** from your life and put you on a **shelf!**

[vs.5] “or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will **remove** thy candlestick out of his place, except thou **repent**.”