



The Ephesian Syndrome

(Heart Disease)

Last Words to the Church #3
Revelation 2:1-7

I. The Surprise **Patient** in the Spiritual ER... The Church in Ephesus

II. The Ultimate “Heart-and-Soul **Doctor**”...

A. The “**Doctor**” – **WHO** is speaking and with what authority?

1. The character, will and work of **Jesus**

2. Implications for the Church

B. The **Diagnosis** – Message for the Ephesians (& the “churches”)

1. What is good

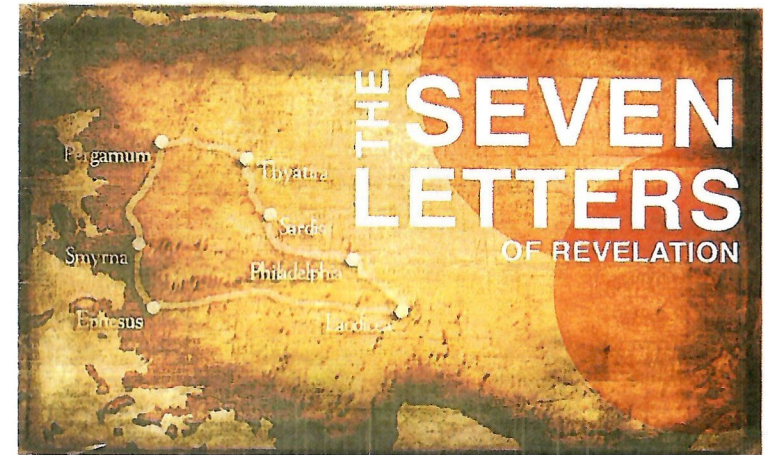
2. What is wrong

C. The Prescribed **Remedy**-**WHAT** do the Ephesians need to do?

D. **What is at Stake?** – **WHY** is this Important?

Before all else, the Church is to be a dynamic, living manifestation of an ongoing love relationship with Jesus Christ which is a matter of complete commitment, primary emphasis and utmost importance.

Additional Notes:



The first
love has
been

abandoned, and in its place is the starchy, high-cholesterol diet of activity and church work that will never nourish the human soul...

The irony of this latter condition of the “Ephesian Syndrome” is that the Christian becomes totally preoccupied, fascinated with themes and goals which would have never won him or her in the first place to have joined the church. – Earl Palmer, Revelation

**Covenant Presbyterian Church
of
Reno, Nevada**

October 18, 2026

Service for The Lord's Day

October 18, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.

*You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name,
and have not grown weary. Yet I hold this against you:
You have forsaken your first love. - Revelation 2:3-4*

We Gather to Focus on Jesus Our First Love

Prelude

Nancy Tedford, organ

Church Family News

***Call to Worship** Psalm 19 (hymnal p.790) Chris Schlatter

We Worship God Who Offers the Fruit of the Tree of Life

***Songs of Praise** Samuel Dueñas & the CPC Praise Band
"The Battle Belongs to the Lord" & "Man of Sorrows"

Time of Greeting / Welcoming One Another

Children's Prayer Time Katie Guerrero

Prayer of Confession, Word of Assurance & Gloria Patri

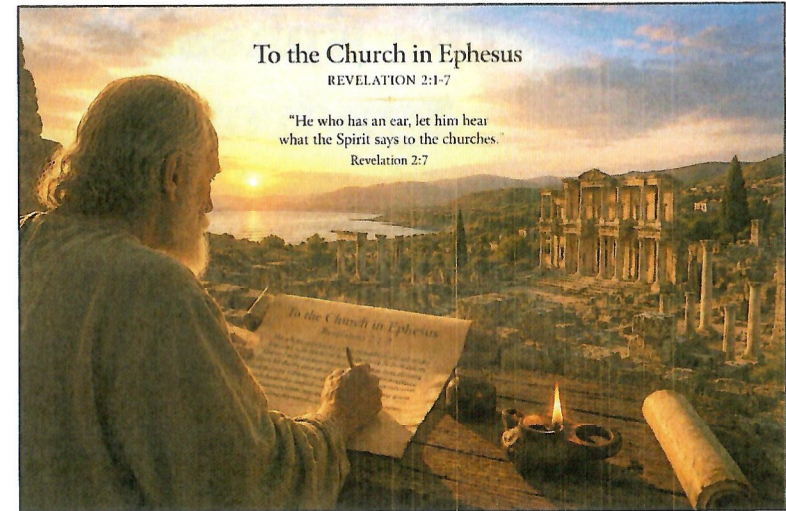
Time of Offering

Offertory Anthem Covenant Choir & CPC Praise Band
"Our Great God" – Ortega/Powell

***Doxology (#731) & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We Listen for What the Spirit Says to the Churches

Hymn of Preparation #315
"He Walks among the Golden Lamps"



Scripture Reading

Revelation 2:1-7 (p.1028)

Message:

The Ephesian Syndrome
(Last Words to the Church #3)

Pastor Jay Hull

We Go Forth Persevering in the Truth & Love of Jesus Christ

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver
us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever. Amen.*

***Closing Hymn**

#352

"Renew Thy Church, Her Ministries Renew"

***Charge & Benediction**

***Postlude**

*indicates to stand if you are able

Weekly Events

Sundays

8:00 am Men's Bible Study
9:30 am Prayer
10:00 am Worship
11:15 am Fellowship

Wednesday

9:00 am Women's Bible Study
1:30 pm XL-ENT Teens
2:30 pm Kids Club
6:30 pm Bible Study
7:00 pm Praise Band Practice

Thursdays

1:00 pm All Church Bible Study
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Oct 18 Discovery Class w/lunch 11:30 am	Nov 7 Elder/Deacon Training 8 am-Noon
19 MomCo 5:30 pm	10 Evangelism MTM 5:00 pm
20 Admin MTM 12:30 pm	Christian Ed MTM 6:00 pm
23-25 Women's Retreat	Worship MTM 6:00 pm
25 Discovery Class w/lunch 11:30 am	Deacons MTM 6:00 pm
Nov 1 Congregational Meeting to elect elders and deacons	Mission MTM 7:00 pm
2 Fellowship MTM 2:00 pm	11 Veterans Day Office Closed
	13-15 Christmas Market for Mission!

News & Reminders

New Evening Bible Study

Starting on Wednesday, Oct. 14, Pastor Jay will lead a weekly Bible study on the Book of Revelation from 6:30-8:00 pm in the corner classroom.

Christmas Child Shoebox Season is Here!

Empty shoeboxes will be available in the narthex one last Sunday, Oct 18, along with useful information on filling your shoebox and also how to order shoeboxes online. Return filled boxes to the narthex on Sunday, Nov 1, 8, & 15.

Short Congregational Meeting on November 1

We'll stay after worship to elect new elders and deacons in time for an elder/deacon training on Nov. 7.

It's Time to Fall Back on November 1

Remember to change your clocks back one hour (you gain an hour of sleep). 2:00 am becomes 1:00 am.

Share a Photo of You or a Loved One Who Served in the Military

Email a picture of your photo to Cindy Duncan at cindy@covenant-reno.org as soon as possible. She'll create a slide show we can all enjoy on Sunday, Nov. 8.

The 2026 Christmas Market for Mission! Is Coming

Sale begins on Fri, Nov 13, 5-7 pm, continues on Sat, 9-4, and concludes on Sun. after worship, 11:30-1:30. Crafted items, gift baskets, and specialty items are needed.

Choir Director Search

The Choir Director Search Committee is asking for your prayers. Denell Hull will be retiring as of Dec. 31. We are looking for a follower of Christ who has choir conducting experience. If you know someone who may be interested, contact the office or Fran Stockert (937) 602-7042. It will be difficult to replace Denell, but we trust the Lord has someone in mind.

PRAYERS & PRAISES

For the Church

Pray for the Pastor Nominating Committee as they pray and search for a pastor to succeed Pastor Jay, when he retires.

Prayer Requests

Nancy Tedford Healing

Rachel Moore Healing from brain surgery (submitted by Jerry DeVore)

Sharleen Phillips Healing from brain surgery on Oct. 8 and 14

Kaley and Chayce Healing from motorcycle accident
(submitted by Carole Faeth)

An online atheist who is reading the Gospels Understanding and Salvation (submitted by Gavin Doyle)

Phil Barackman Healing

Sunny Armstrong Special needs child facing surgery (submitted by Brent Ford)

Bereavement

Friends and family of **Trevor Molini** (submitted by Carole Faeth)

Friends and family of **Xiaoteng Liang** (Nancy Xiao's mother)

Friends and family of **Bettye Morgan** (Patti Hemsley's mother)

Friends and family of **Cathy Harper** (friend of Jim and Jeanette Prosser)

Our New Neighbors

Pray for the new neighbors who have moved in

On Active Military Tour of Duty

Noah Arias, Terran Billharz, Cody Carr, Matthew Cunningham, Westin Hart, Chase Lemon, Levi Sanchez, Gary Hogman, Maille Mathieu, Brian Zordell, Margaret Guthrie, Benjamin Guthrie, Chandler Bryant, Caleb Mize & Jacob Simpkins

Prayer Requests

Name of Person to pray for: _____

Concern or Update _____

Submitted by _____

Date _____

☐ For Church-wide prayer

☐ For Pastor/Staff Prayer

☐ Post on the Realm

Prayer submissions will be listed for 4 weeks; if an extension is desired, please request with an update. Put your request in the offering plate or in the prayer request box located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary.