



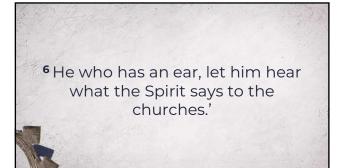
*And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. "'I know your works. You have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.



² Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.

³Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

⁴Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. ⁵ The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.



How Do God's People Avoid Becoming Like This Dead Church?

Three Keys

Don't Shortcut the Things that Really Matter to God.

^{1b} "I know your works. You have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. ² Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God.

How Does God Measure their Deadness?

Their Name was Not True – They had the appearance of spiritual life, but there was no inner reality.

Their Works were Not Real – They seemed to be producing spiritual output (fruit), but there was no authentic heart.



Be a Listener When God Sounds an Alarm in Your Life.

^{2a} Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die ... ³ Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

Three Commands of Warning

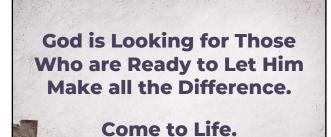
- **1. Wake Up** = Become Alert. Recognize the Danger. Move to Action.
- 2. Turn Back = Remember What's True. Return to It. Repent for Leaving God.
- 3. Beware = Know the Alternative.

Find the Courage to Live Life in the Minority.

⁴Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy.

Three Promises for Those Who Really Belong to Jesus

- 1. Closeness = Life in the Presence & Blessing of God.
- **2. Cleanness** = Cleansing & Forgiveness from Sin. Clothed in God's Own Righteousness.
- **3. Confidence** = The Certainty of Eternal Life & Acceptance by God Forever.





SLIDES AFTER THIS NOT FOR SHOWING.

