

# A Study in Revelation: The Last Word to the Church

The Vineyard Church of Conroe Raymond McDonald September 20, 2015

**Sermon Outline Notes** 

### The Famous Last Words of Scripture WERE GIVEN FOR THE

### CHURCH FOR COMMUNITY FORMATION

John, To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5a</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth... Rev. 1:4-6

### Jesus provides TRAINING TO THE CHURCH

### Through AFFIRMATION, CORRECTION, & PROMISE

#### I. Revelation 2:1-7

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. <sup>2</sup> I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false... <sup>5</sup> Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first... <sup>7</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

### **Every Church receives Training in LOVE**

## Affirming FAITHFULNESS, Correcting DISTRACTION,

# **Promising FULLNESS**

I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. John 15:5 NASB

#### II. Revelation 2:8-11

<sup>8</sup> "To the angel of the church in Smyrna write: These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again. <sup>9</sup> I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet you are rich! I know about the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup> Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. <sup>11</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.

## **Every Church receives Training in SUFFERING**

# Affirming <u>DEPENDENCE</u>, <u>Correcting VICTIMHOOD</u>,

# **Promising VICTORY**

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. 1 Peter 5:10

### III. Revelation 2:12-17 To the Church in Pergamum

<sup>12</sup> "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. <sup>13</sup> I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name... <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality.... <sup>16</sup> Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

# **Every Church receives Training in TRUTH**

# Affirming BOLDNESS, Correcting SYNCRETISM,

## **Promising VINDICATION**

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples." Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you

free. John 8:31-32