

Sermon Discussion

16 May 2021

Read Revelation 3: 1-6

Dig Deeper

Sardis had a wealthy tradition. Legend has it that it was the river through Sardis where King Midas bathed in order to cure him from turning everything he touched into gold. This is the explanation of the abundance of gold deposits. Gold and silver coins were first minted here.

King Croesus was known for his vast wealth but he was over-confident in how impregnable his defences were to the extent that they were virtually undefended in the siege of 546BC. This led to the capture of the city.

It seems the church in Sardis had the same problem. They had a great reputation but their deeds were incomplete or hollow. Jesus sees right through them and declared them dead.

We know that Jesus defeats death and so there is a rescue plan but it requires the church to act.

Jesus confirms the most wonderful promises to those who overcome and remain faithful. The message is short, clear and demands a response.

1. Which part of the letter to Sardis raises the biggest concerns for you?
2. What are the features of a church that is alive?
3. Jesus has nothing good to say about the church in Sardis. How would you describe their failings?
4. What does Jesus promise in verses 5 and 6 to those who overcome? What does this mean?

Application and Prayer

- Sardis relied on their reputation and wealth. What are you relying on separate from relying on Christ?
- In what area of your life do you think Jesus might be telling you to wake up?
- Two signs of life are breathing and growing. Meditate on how these are applicable to your life in Christ.