Ephesians: More Than We Can See

**Week 14:** The War to Come: Persecution of the Early Church and Ephesians in Revelation

Revelation 2:1-7

February 7

1. Why does Ephesus come first in the list of the seven churches in Revelation?
2. How does John describe the Risen Christ in 2:1-2?
   1. What do the seven stars and the seven lampstands represent?
3. In Revelation 2:2-3, why does Jesus begin his assessment of the church in Ephesus the way he does?
   1. Why is his approach important?
4. What “works” and “toil” is Jesus referring to in verse 2?
5. What does it mean that the Ephesians have “tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false” in verse 2?
   1. What was going on in Ephesus that made this such a task? (remember the Temple of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from lesson 11)
6. What was Jesus primarily concerned about with the church in Ephesus?
   1. Why was it important for Jesus to highlight this issue?
7. In verse 4, what does it mean that the church in Ephesus “abandoned the love you had at first?”
8. What is the first thing that Risen Christ calls the church to do in verse 5?
   1. Why is it important that they *remember*?
9. What is the second thing that the Risen Christ calls the church to do in verse 5?
   1. Why is it important that they *repent*?
   2. What about in our own lives? Why are we called to repent?
10. What is the third thing that the Risen Christ calls the church to do in verse 5?
    1. What is it that they are supposed to *do*?
    2. What will happen if they don’t do what Jesus calls them to do?
    3. Why does Jesus use such strong language with them?
11. Who are the Nicolaitans (v. 6)?
    1. Why do they hate the Nicolaitans?
12. What does Jesus encourage in verse 12?
13. What is the promise that Jesus makes to those who overcome (v. 12)?
    1. What is the “tree of life” Jesus is referring to?
    2. What/where is the “paradise of God”?
    3. How do you think that promise made the Ephesians feel? How does it make you feel?
14. How would you appraise FPC from this letter?
15. What does it mean to you that Jesus in in charge of you and the church and that He does care for you/the church?
16. How can you/we be aligned with His will?