

...lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Is God talking to an ~~angel~~ whom God sent to be the guardian angel of this church? I think it is perfectly evident these are not addressed to angelic beings. These are the messengers, and when we read ~~the~~ statements of the messengers, we see them as human beings, ~~with~~ their faults and limitations, these ~~who~~ are following the Scripture and trying to present it to the people, and we see that when the messengers fall from the high standards he should maintain, ~~his~~ falls are apt to be reflected in the church, ~~and~~ over a period of time, the situation of the ministers, the situation of the church, are apt to come rather near together. And the account of these churches, everybody takes as a description of the churches, not just of the angels, but ~~the~~ it certainly means the church and the man, who is responsible, along with the membership for the situation in which he is. So here, right in the book of revelation, we have clear evidence of ~~that~~ that which is not made clear, actually clear, in many other passages. That it is God's will that a church, a local church, shall have a messenger, not a dictator, not one to lord it over, but a messenger who has a responsibility to get his message there correctly and a responsibility to lead the people on in the things of God. Now that is, I'd say, an incidental thing in the first chapter, but brought out clearly in these next few. Now ~~we~~ spoke of how the first chapter has many symbols but it is a chapter which should bring blessing to everyone who reads it and there is no excuse for neglecting this first chapter.

How about the second? Well, chapters 2 to 4 are the Letters to the Seven Churches. Now these four--2 to 3, rather. These two chapters have letters to seven chapters. There is a certain amount of similarity in these letters. They have an introduction, they have a description of the church, they have a rebuke for sin if sin is present, they have a blessing to them, if blessing is present, and they have an individual blessing for those who overcome within the church. Certainly just saying that is a message for every one of us. No matter how bad the situation in which we find ourselves, every time ~~there~~ is a blessing for the individual who overcomes that situation, and who lives with