

God's Vision For His Church

Deuteronomy 28:1-2 (NIV) — (1) If you fully obey the LORD your God and carefully follow all his commands I give you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations on earth. (2) All these blessings will come upon you and accompany you if you obey the LORD your God:

Revelation 3:1-6 (NIV) — (1) “To the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who holds the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead. (2) Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your deeds complete in the sight of my God. (3) Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; obey it, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you. (4) Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. (5) He who overcomes will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out his name from the book of life, but will acknowledge his name before my Father and his angels. (6) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Acts 18:1-10 (NIV) — (1) After this, Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. (2) There he met a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, who had recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had ordered all the Jews to leave Rome. Paul went to see them, (3) and because he was a tentmaker as they were, he stayed and worked with them. (4) Every Sabbath he reasoned in the synagogue, trying to persuade Jews and Greeks. (5) When Silas and Timothy came from Macedonia, Paul devoted himself exclusively to preaching, testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. (6) But when the Jews opposed Paul and became abusive, he shook out his clothes in protest and said to them, “Your blood be on your own heads! I am clear of my responsibility. From now on I will go to the Gentiles.” (7) Then Paul left the synagogue and went next door to the house of Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. (8) Crispus, the synagogue ruler, and his entire household believed in the Lord; and many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized. (9) One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent. (10) For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.”

I) Hinderances To Church _____

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 (NIV) — (9) Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders (10) nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

II) What I Believe Is God's _____ For This Church.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (NIV) — (9) However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”— (10) but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

1 Peter 2:9-10 (NIV) — (9) But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness

into his wonderful light. **(10)** Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Luke 19:10 (NIV) — (10) For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.”

Ezekiel 34:16 (NIV) — (16) I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

III) What Do We Need To ____?

Daniel 9:4–10 (NIV) — (4) I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands, **(5)** we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. **(6)** We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. **(7)** “Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame—the men of Judah and people of Jerusalem and all Israel, both near and far, in all the countries where you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you. **(8)** O LORD, we and our kings, our princes and our fathers are covered with shame because we have sinned against you. **(9)** The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him; **(10)** we have not obeyed the LORD our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets.