

MESSAGES

NOT TO BE MISSED!

7 LETTERS TO THE SEVEN ECCLESIAS



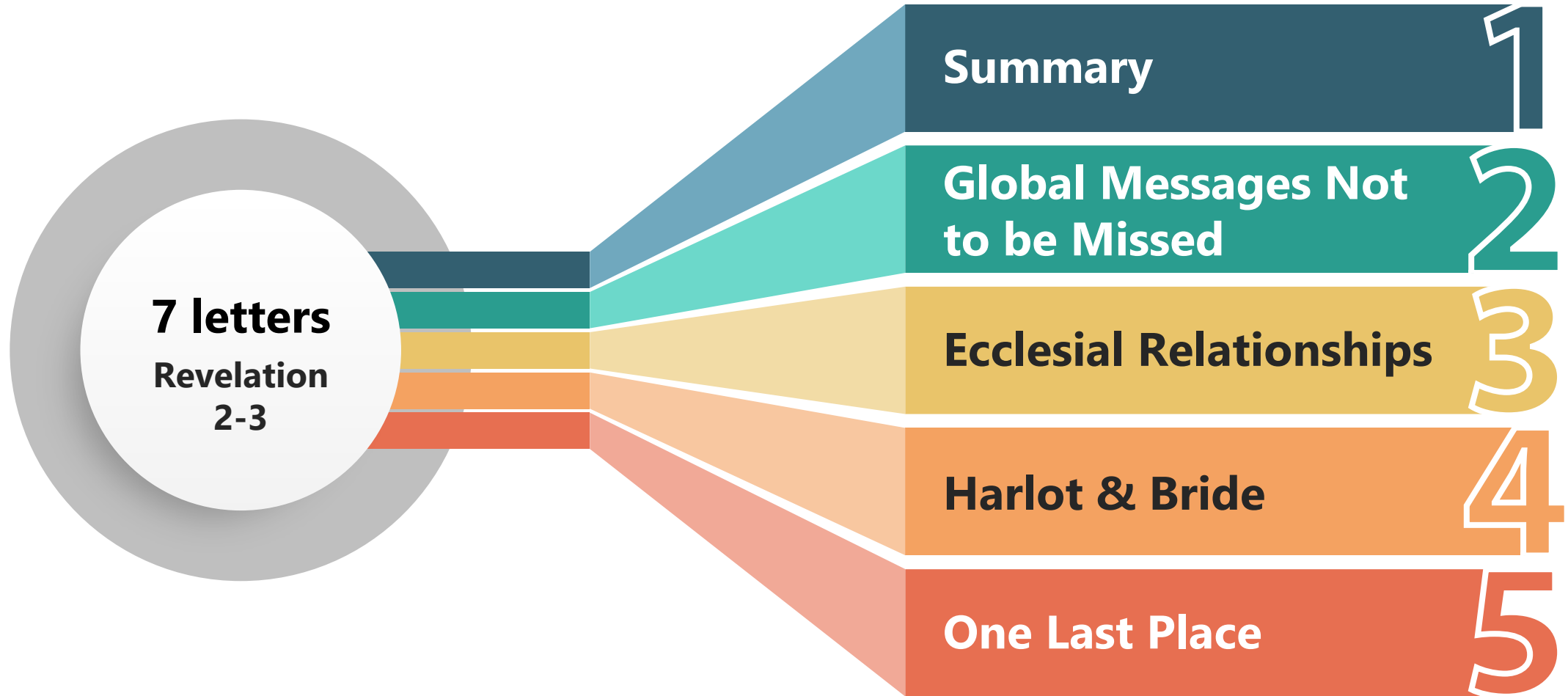
Class 6: One more place!



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AGENDA

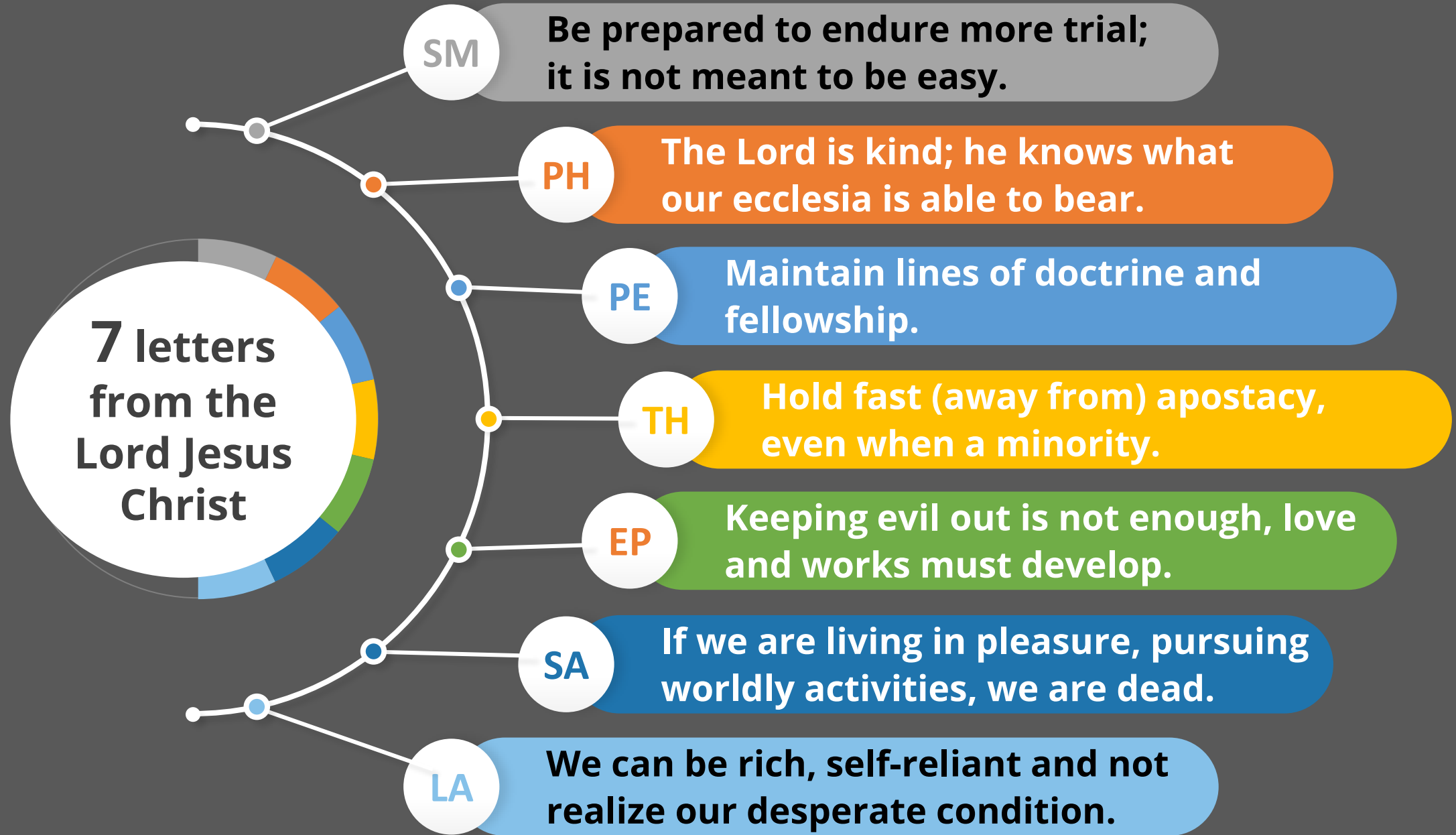


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SUMMARY

		-ve feedback	+ve feedback	Concern	Christs action against the whole ecclesia	Ecclesia no longer capable of recovering apostates
1	Smyrna		☒			
2	Philadelphia		☒	☒		
3	Pergamos	☒	☒			
4	Thyatira	☒	☒			☒
5	Ephesus	☒	☒		☒	
6	Sardis	☒				
7	Laodicea	☒			☒	

MESSAGES NOT TO BE MISSED!



MESSAGES NOT TO BE MISSED GLOBALLY

- 1. The Lord Jesus, as God manifest shows forth the goodness and severity of God.**
- 2. The letters indicate the composite nature of the principles, activities and responsibilities in the truth.**
- 3. The ecclesial unit is a divine unit of organization that requires our commitment.**
- 4. Personal commitment is required to be a soldier in overcoming the ease and temptations of this world.**
- 5. Many enemies to be recognized: religious, political, philosophical and our own selves!**

ENEMY REVIEW

Nicolaitanes

Satan

Devil

Balaam

Jezebel

1

Smyrna



2

Philadelphia



3

Pergamos



4

Thyatira



5

Ephesus



6

Sardis

7

Laodicea

ANOTHER ENEMY

Nicolaitanes

Satan

Devil

Balaam

Jezebel

SELF

1

Smyrna



2

Philadelphia



3

Pergamos



4

Thyatira



5

Ephesus



6

Sardis



7

Laodicea



Ecclesial Relationships

- 1. Ecclesias can be examples one to another**
- 2. Inter-ecclesial counsel and decision-making through representatives appointed by the ecclesias**
- 3. Joint efforts and association with those of like-mind**

Ecclesia Corrupted (The harlot)

“By the end of the fifth century the following unscriptural doctrines and practices had become rooted in the Church: exorcism (expelling of evil spirits); prayers for the dead; a belief in purgatory (place in which souls are purified after death before they can enter heaven); the forty-day Lenten season; the view that the Lord’s Supper is a sacrifice, and that its administrators are priests; a sharp division of the members of the church in clergy (officers of the church) and laity (ordinary church members);” (Kuiper, pg 44)

Ecclesia Corrupted (The harlot)

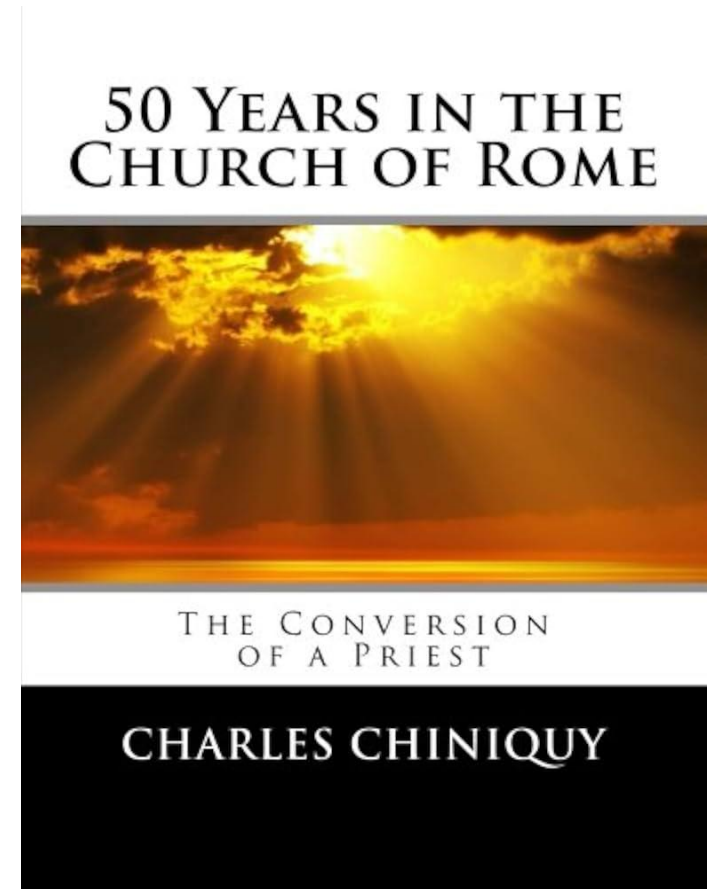
“...the veneration (adoration) of martyrs and saints, and above all the adoration of Mary; the burning of tapers or candles in their honor; veneration of the relics of martyrs and saints; the ascription of magical powers to these relics; pictures, images, and altars in the churches; gorgeous vestments for the clergy; more and more elaborate and splendid ritual (form of worship); less and less preaching; pilgrimages to holy places; monasticism; worldliness; persecution of heathen and heretics.”

(Kuiper pg 44)

Ecclesia Corrupted (The harlot)

“All heathen religions had their sacrifices, their priests, and their altars. Soon the church had its sacrifice, its priests, and its altars...Heathendom was full of superstition...soon that superstition was transferred to pieces of the cross, and to relics of saints and martyrs, such as bones and hair fragments of clothing. Emperor Julian the Apostate called the Christians bone worshippers.” (Kuiper pg 44)

“Rome is the great danger ahead for the Church of Christ, and you do not understand it enough....makes it almost impossible for you to realize the dark mysteries of idolatry, immorality, degrading slavery, hatred of the Word of God, concealed behind the walls of that modern Babylon.” (The Conversion of a Priest, Charles Chiniquy, pg 6)



“You are too honest to suspect them...many begin to read them [books about Romanism], very few have the courage to go to the end. The consequence is an **ignorance of Romanism which becomes more and more deplorable and fatal, every day.”**

(Charles Chiniquy, pg 6)

“It is that ignorance which paralyzes the arm of the Church of Christ, and makes the glorious word **“Protestant” senseless, almost a dead and ridiculous word. For **who does really protest against Rome, to-day?** where are those who sound the trumpet of alarm? When Rome is striking you to the heart by **cursing your schools and wrenching the Bible from the hands of your children**; when she is not only battering your doors, but scaling your walls and storming your citadels, how few dare go to the breach and repulse the audacious and sacrilegious foe?”** (Charles Chiniquy, pg 6)

“It is true that the Church of Rome...gave us her principles, precepts, fables and legends that we might be attached to her, and that she might remain the mistress of our hearts. But these doctrines, practices, principles and fables seemed to us so evidently borrowed from Paganism—they were so cold, so naked, so stripped of all true poetry, that if the Paganism of the ancients was not left absolute master of our affections, it still claimed a large part of our souls.”

(Charles Chiniquy, pg 44)

“...modern Protestants have not only forgotten what Rome was, what she is, and what she will forever be: the most irreconcilable and powerful enemy of the Gospel of Christ; but they consider her almost a branch of the church whose corner-stone is Christ.... The superstitions, the ridiculous and humiliating practices, the secret and mental agonies of the monks, the nuns and the priests...” (Charles Chiniquy, pg 6)

Saint Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuit Society:

“As for holy obedience, this virtue must be perfect in every point—in execution, in will, in intellect...suppressing every repugnant thought and judgment of one’s own in a certain obedience; and let every one persuade himself, that he who lives under obedience should be moved and directed, under Divine Providence, by his superior, JUST AS IF HE WERE A CORPSE (perinde acsi cadaver esset) which allows itself to be moved and led in every direction.”

(Charles Chiniquy, pg 57)

Truth and Lies

Faithful under Pressure

Pleasure and Riches

Fornication

Preparation

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The Harlot and the Bride

AND THE SEVEN LETTERS

Preparation for the Lord

“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame” (16:5)

“arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints” (19:8)

✓ Sardis: “thief”, “watch”, “white garments” 3:3-4

✓ Laodicea: “white garments”, “naked” 3:18

Fornication

“With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication” (17:2)



**Pergamos:
“fornication” 2:14**



**Thyatira:
“fornication” 2:20**

Pleasure and Riches

“How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously” (18:7)

“The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones... and the fruits... and all things which were dainty and goodly...riches” (18:12-17)

✓ Sardis: “defiled” 3:4
see 1 Tim. 5:6

✓ Laodicea: “rich”, “increased in goods” 3:17

Faithful under Pressure

“And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus...and they that are with him are...faithful” (17:6,14, also 18:24, 20:4)

- ✓ Smyrna: to “suffer” and be “faithful unto death” 2:10
- ✓ Pergamos: “faithful martyr” Antipas 2:13
- ✓ Philadelphia: “kept my word” and “hast not denied my name” 3:8

Faithful under Pressure

Pleasure and Riches

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Preparation

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Truth and Lies

“For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie” (22:15, also 21:27)

- ✓ “thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name’s sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted (2:2-3)

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Truth and Lies

Faithful under Pressure

Pleasure and Riches

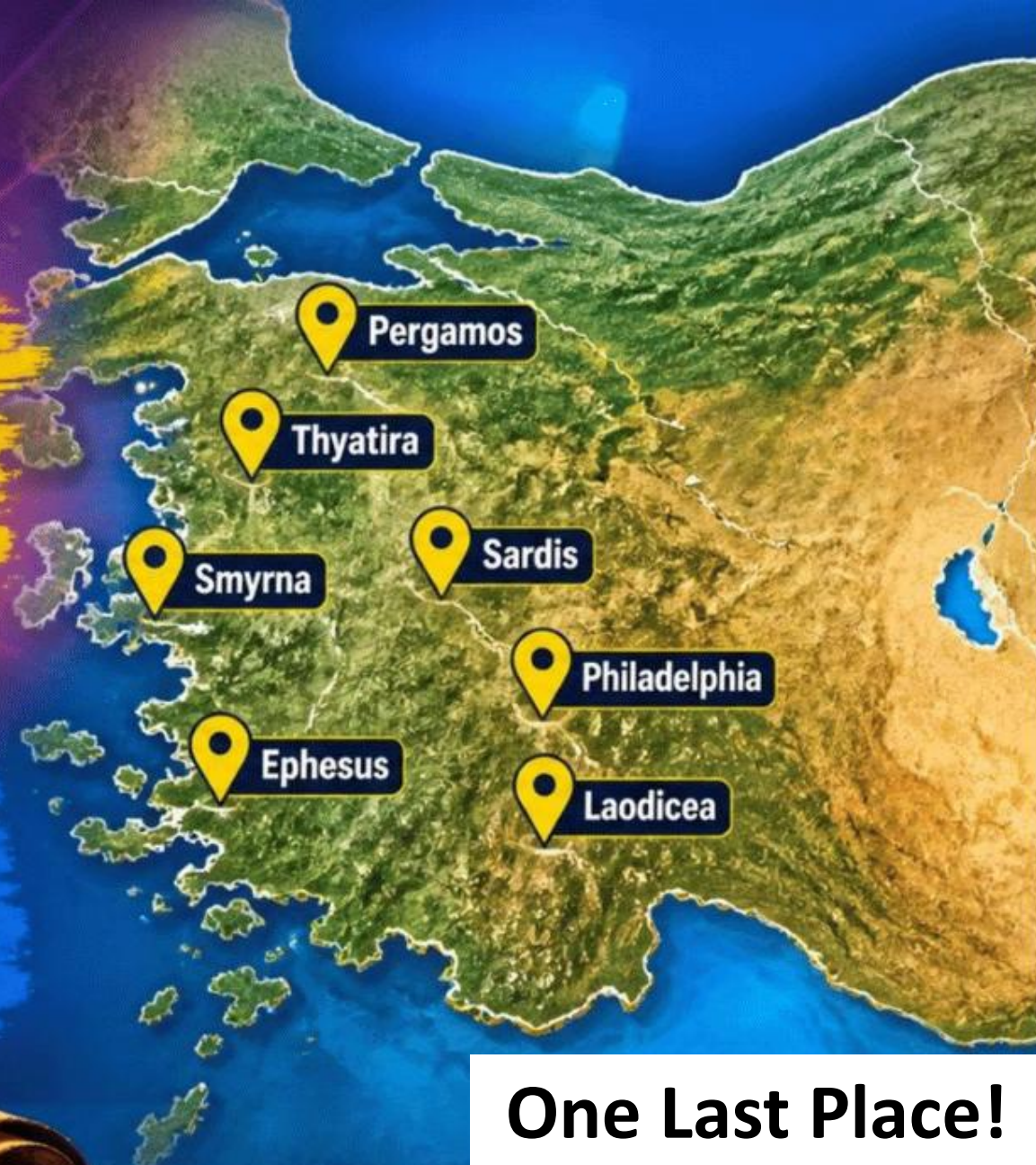
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He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.
Rev. 22:20–21.

