



- I. **Revelation 2:1-7**
 - A. The law of first
 1. **Place of Order or importance; foremost, beginning, chief**
 2. Whatever is first in your life is the most important....
 - What is the “first” thing you do every morning?
 - What is the “first” thing you do when you sit down to eat?
 - What is the “first” thing you do when you get in your car?
 - What is the “first” thing you do when you get paid?
 3. God honors “first” and foremost!
 - B. Notice the exhortation and the rebuke
 1. Jesus spoke highly of the church’s good works, patience, and their dislike toward evil.
 2. The rebuke.... *“On the outside, you are doing everything that appears to be right...going to church, working with your hands, feeding the poor, etc....; but your relationship with me is more important....your time with me is what is missing in all of this; Don’t allow the enemy to distract you from ME!”*
 - C. *A Stirring in the Spirit...*
 1. *Just like the Prodigal Son in **Luke 15:17-18**, God’s people are rising up...waking up...coming to their senses, and with the Holy Spirit’s help, we are taking off the blinders...so we can see the distractions of this world, the trivial things that Satan has put in front of us....it is time to humble ourselves before God, know Him as Savior and Lord, and walk in the newness of His Glory!*
 2. The Understanding of Prayer is only the beginning....
- II. Who Told You...?
 - A. **Genesis 3:6-11**
 1. Humans only know what they have been taught. You are not a creature of instinct. From a baby, you only know what you have learned...through what you hear, see, taste, touch, and smell. When Adam and Eve’s spiritual eyes were opened, they saw their nakedness and became afraid (I want you to see this: Fear only exists outside of the presence of God; Nakedness, your Shame...SEPARATION FROM GOD and His Covering).
 2. Notice what the Lord said to Adam and Eve: *Who Told You...?*
 3. You have been trained in your families for 6000 years to thing the opposite of God. You have been taught to relate to each other in an improper way, to be victims, to be afraid, to be rejected, to be bitter, to have inappropriate feelings, etc.

- Who told you that you have an incurable disease?
 - Who told you that you will live in debt the rest of your life?
 - Who told you that you will never get ahead and be happy?
4. Renew your mind so you can see....**Romans 12:1-2** ;If you want healing, peace, rest, and joy....it begins with moving from here to there (from conformity to transformation).
- D. The Covering....His Presence....His Blood
1. Man has been trying to find a covering from the very first sin...but it never works....do you know why? Because it is never enough!
- Drinking cannot fill the gap...
 - Smoking cannot fill the gap...
 - Marriage cannot fill the gap...
 - Having children cannot fill the gap...
 - Being successful cannot fill the gap....
 - These are all temporary joy's....and it never lasts; but when God brings in His covering, it is not just enough...It is more than enough!
2. The Blood....
- The Only Way Back to the Father is to undo what was done.... “Because you left your first love...”
 - To undo the nakedness....the separation, confusion, and shame....there is only one way: Washed BY His Blood (MY COVERING IS MY POWER!)
 - **Revelation 19:13** “Vesture dipped in blood and His name is called the Word of God.” / **Ephesians 5:26** “We are washed by the Word.”