Journey Through the Bible: Revelation Session 7: The Church of Pride, Sardis (Rev. 3:1-6) Disclaimer: Acts 17:11	
The Apocalypse (Unveiling-SINGULAR) - (1:19) Christ's Instruction and Outline for the Book - "Have Seen" Risen Christ (Ch. 1) - "That Which Is" The Seven Churches (Ch. 2-3) - "Hereafter" The Conquest (Ch. 4-22)	
Promised Blessing to the Reader (1:3)	
Letters to the Churches of Asia (Ch.'s 2-3): Application: - Local Churches with Local Church Problems - Personal Challenges Within the Church - Open Letters So that Every Church Can Learn - Prophetic Insight into the Church Age	
Areas of Meaning: - The Name of the Church - The Title Christ Chooses for Himself - Commendation - Concern - Instruction - Promise to the Overcomer - Prophetic: History of the Church*	
History of Sardis: Σάρδεις – "Sardis" Lit. The Red Ones - Ref. Sardis Stone or Sardonyx (Carnelian) - Used on the Breastplate of the High Priest of Israel - Used in Carving (Royal Seals) - Formerly Precious Gem Now Common	
Former Capital of the Lydian Empire (1200 BC) - Founded Before 2000 BC - City Renowned for Great Wealth and Trade - Gold Mining & Red dyed Textiles - Golden Lydian Stater (1st Minted Coin)	

 Appearance of Impregnability: Located on a Plateau with 3 Cliff Faces 1000 ft. Above the Surrounding Valley Made of Clay (Eroded Leaving Cracks) Battle of Sardis in 549BC (Cyrus vs. Croesus) Lydian Forces Ordered to Defend the Hill Leaving the Cliffs Vulnerable After a 14-Day Siege, Cyrus Offered a Reward to Any Who Could Find a Climbable Pass A Lydian Soldier Was Observed Climbing the Cracks to Retrieve His Fallen Helmet Persian Army Climbed the Cliffs by Night and Conquered the City, "Like a Thief in the Night." 	
Military History: 549 BC: Captured by Persia 501 BC: Burned by Ionia 334 BC: Conquered by Alexander the Great 214 BC: Seleucid Empire	
Reputation: "Sardis" Came to Represent - A Promise Made Without Value - Unjustified Glory - Appearances Without Truth - Confidence Without Substance - A Prelude to Ruin	
 Destruction to Modern: Destroyed by Earthquake in 17 AD and Rebuilt by Tiberius City of Protection for Trade Between East and West Became a Proconsul of Rome Sacked by Persia in 615AD Conquered and Destroyed by the Turks in 1402AD Currently: Sart, Turkey 	
Sardis Culture: - Greek/Hellenistic Culture - Patron Deity: Cybele (Diana) - Origin of the Myth of Midas	

"The One Who Has the Seven Spirits and the Seven Stars"	
- 7-Fold Ministry of the Holy Spirit (Isa. 11:2-3)	
- Source of Strength and Connectivity with God	
- Empowerment for Ministry	
- Seven Angles of the Churches in Roman Asia	
- "Messenger"	
- Emphasis on Divine Authority and Mission	
- Communion, Devotion, Discipleship, Worship	
- "Go and Make Disciples"	
Go and Make Disciples	
Concern:	
- "I Know Your Works"	
- Worship, Discipleship, Missions, Evangelism	
- "You Have a Reputation" (Lit. "Name")	
- Alive: Active and "Among the Living"	
- Alt. "These things are said about you"	
- "You are Dead."	
- The Quality has Declined (Coasting)	
- Emphasizing the Wrong Works	
- No Longer Working for God (Worldliness)	
- No Longer Devoted to God (Apathy/Tolerance)	
- The Church isn't a Priority	
The Charen ish t a Friority	
Instruction:	
- "Be Alert and Strengthen"	
- Remain Diligent in Matters of the Faith:	
- Remember Your Accountability to Christ	
- Be Watchful Against Temptation and Sin	
- Be Diligent Against False Teachers	
- Look For His Return	
Look I of This Return	
Instruction: "Your Works are Not Complete"	
πληρόω – PlE'ro: Lit. Crammed	
- Finished	
- Duty Fulfilled	
- Perfect	
- "Ready to be presented"	
C. F. Mat. 7:21-23	
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Promise to the Overcomer:	
- "There are a few" - A Faithful Remnant	
- "not defiled"	
- Participated in Sin (Commission/Omission)	
Ref. James 4:17	
- "Walk in white because they are worthy."	
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ἄξιος – Axios: Lit. Due Reward	
- Deserving	
- Having Value	
- (Worthy) Found to Be Suitable	
"Have Been Made Worthy"	
W-11	-
- Walk with Christ in White Raiment Found Innocent (Without Spot or Planish)	
Found Innocent (Without Spot or Blemish)Declared Righteous Before God	
- Name Written in the Book of Life	
- Cannot Be Removed	
- Name Declared Before God and the Angels	
Prophetic:	
Church Prior to the Reformation	
- Distracted by Politics and Money	
- Disregarded Doctrine, Devotion, and Evangelism	
- Monastic Orders Corrupted	
- Grace Either Ignored or "Sold"	
For Session 8:	
Read Rev. 3:7-13 (x2)Look for distinctives in this church.	
- How important is a church that welcomes?	
- How important is a church that loves (members & visitors)?	
- Reflect on Personal Experiences.	
- Journal and Discuss in Groups.	
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