Sermon Notes Queen Valley Baptist Church January 11, 2015 Dr. Don Brackbill, Jr.



The Seven Letters Series

A series examining the message of Jesus to the modern Church.

Revelation 2:1-7 "Renew Your Passion"

THE JESUS FOR A PASSIONLESS FAITH (REVELATION 2:1)

A passionless faith happens because the individual forgets the intimacy of relationship with Jesus and reduces faith to a series of rules to follow.

Remember, Jesus is the one who walks among the church.

Remember, Jesus is the one who holds your life in his hands.

ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PASSIONLESS PEOPLE (REVELATION 2:2-3, 6)

Jesus commends faithful living (even though passion has gone missing). Faithfulness is celebrated –

You continue working, toiling and enduring (2:2) You do not bear with those who are evil (2:2). You have tested those among you for faithfulness (2:2). You have endured difficult times (2:3). You have not grown weary in doing the right things (2:3). You have rejected the philosophy of the Nicolatians (2:6).

But Jesus says there is more to the faith relationship than just doing the right things.

THE DANGER OF PASSIONLESS LIVING (REVELATION 2:4)

Jesus identifies the problem – they have grown cold emotionally, spiritually in their relationship with Him.

Right behavior is not enough – believers must experience a passionate connection with the Savior!

THE CALL TO RENEW PASSION (REVELATION 2:5)

How do we renew passion in our experience with Jesus? He prescribes several things that are essential:

- (1) Remember the way it used to be.
- (2) Repent
- (3) Renew the first works

The risk of non-renewal of passion is removal of the church!

THE PROMISE FOR PASSIONATE SERVICE (REVELATION 2:7)

Passion is rewarded with genuine life!

Passion is rewarded with the paradise (the presence) of God himself!

Will you stoke the fires of your passion for Jesus and renew your heart with Him?