

## A SPIRITUAL GRAVEYARD

August 28, 2023 Revelation 3:1-6 by Bob Branch  
Standing In The Fire, part 8

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### Sardis

*“As rich as Croesus.”*

Impregnable Citadel

**BIG IDEA:** Without attention, vigilance and nutrition, even the most vibrant spiritual life can fall into decay and die—in both a church and individually.

### Revelation 3:1-6

**Diagnosis.** *“You’re dead.”*

*“your works are incomplete.”*

*You never finish anything.*

*Not actually the deeds of God.*

*No Outreach and Evangelism*

*Disconnected from Jesus*

“Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you. In the same way that a branch can’t bear grapes by itself but only by being joined to the vine, you can’t bear fruit unless you are joined with me. I am the Vine, you are the branches. When you’re joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is sure to be abundant. Separated, you can’t produce a thing.” **John 15:4-**

**5 MSG**

### How to spiritually die?

Reputation/building

Headed in wrong direction

Fail at watchfulness

Consciences hardening

Strength has become weakness

Leave God’s Spirit

Become forgetful

*With Jesus there is still hope.*

**5 course corrections.**

<sup>1</sup> **Wake up,**

*Gregorio: watchful, alert (John 17:14-16)*

<sup>2</sup> **Strengthen what remains**

<sup>3</sup> **Keep on Remembering what you’ve received & heard.**

**#7 completeness, fullness, essence, reality.**

*“Receive the Holy Spirit” John 20:22*

*“...you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” Acts 2:38*

*“Did you receive the Holy Spirit...?” Acts 19:2*

*“The Spirit gives life.” John 6:63*

<sup>4</sup> **Keep it.** Lit. **Keep on keeping it.**

*“keep on being filled with the Spirit” Ephesians 5:18 ISV*

<sup>5</sup> **Repent.** Turn around. U-Turn.

**“If you don’t, I will come like a night bandit”**

**Encouragement for the undefiled**

**Reward**

<sup>1</sup> **A Wardrobe upgrade.**

<sup>2</sup> **Their name won’t be blotted out.** (Rev. 20:15; 21:27).

<sup>3</sup> **“I will acknowledge your name before my Father and before his angels.”** (Mt. 10:32; Luke 12:8)

**TAKEWAYS:**

**Are you dead?** It’s time to turn to Jesus and rise.

**Are you so blended with the world** that no one can tell you follow Jesus. Inoffensive?

**Are you trying to live the Christian life** without the presence and power of God’s Spirit? Maybe are exhausted and discouraged. Time to be filled again.

**Are you stained by sexual sin** or some compromise that is sticking to you. Time to confess it, get prayer and get free.