

27 April 2014: Preached by Preacher Samson Hutagalung

Topic: **Overcomers in Christ (part 2)**

Scripture Text: Revelation 2:1-7

1. The Ephesian Church seemed to be an outstanding Church for her works, labour, patience, discernment and uncompromising tolerance of wrong doctrines. The Church even had Paul and Timothy to teach them the Word of God.
2. Yet, the Lord Jesus Christ said that nevertheless He had somewhat against the Ephesian Church as they have left their first love. Their foundation and attitude in service and labour was wrong in that they did it not because of the love of Christ. The outward actions were present but God is not pleased with the Church.
3. Today, we should examine ourselves if we are also like the Ephesian Church. By having a lot of activities and good attendance is not a certainty that God is pleased with us. We need to search our hearts before God if we have done everything for the Lord and His glory out of a true sincere love for Him.
4. To be overcomers in Christ, we must take heed to the rebuke of the Lord Jesus Christ to remember where we have fallen (v.5). We must know our problem and spiritual condition. We should not deceive ourselves that all is well and do nothing about it. Then we must repent of our sin (v.5). There must be a renewed heart to obey the Lord. Finally, we must return to the Lord (v.5) to love Him with our first love.
5. The Lord Jesus' warning is clear that judgement will come to the Church if there is no true repentance. The Church will be removed with no more light. What happened to the Ephesian Church that she is no longer in existence is a warning to every Church to love the Lord with all our heart, mind and strength.