

October 20, 2019 The Church at Sardis

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The Church at Sardis

Oct. 20, 2019

Rev. 3:1-6

Hotel false advertising (Houston)

- About the church

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- Capital of Lydia, very important city
- 50 miles E of Ephesus at junction of 5 main roads
- center of trade
- military center
- located on a very inaccessible plateau
- acropolis of Sardis was about 1500 ft above main roads, made an impregnable fortress
- main religion was worship of Artemis - daughter of Apollo, a "nature cult", believed in death and rebirth

(reincarnation)

- known for manufacture of wool garments
- city was a shadow of former splendor and so was the church...

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- alive in name only
- warning to all "great" churches that are living on past glory
- four stages of many ministries

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- a man
- a movement
- a machine
- a monument

- Sardis was at the monument stage - but there was HOPE! Jesus is head of the church and can bring new LIFE!