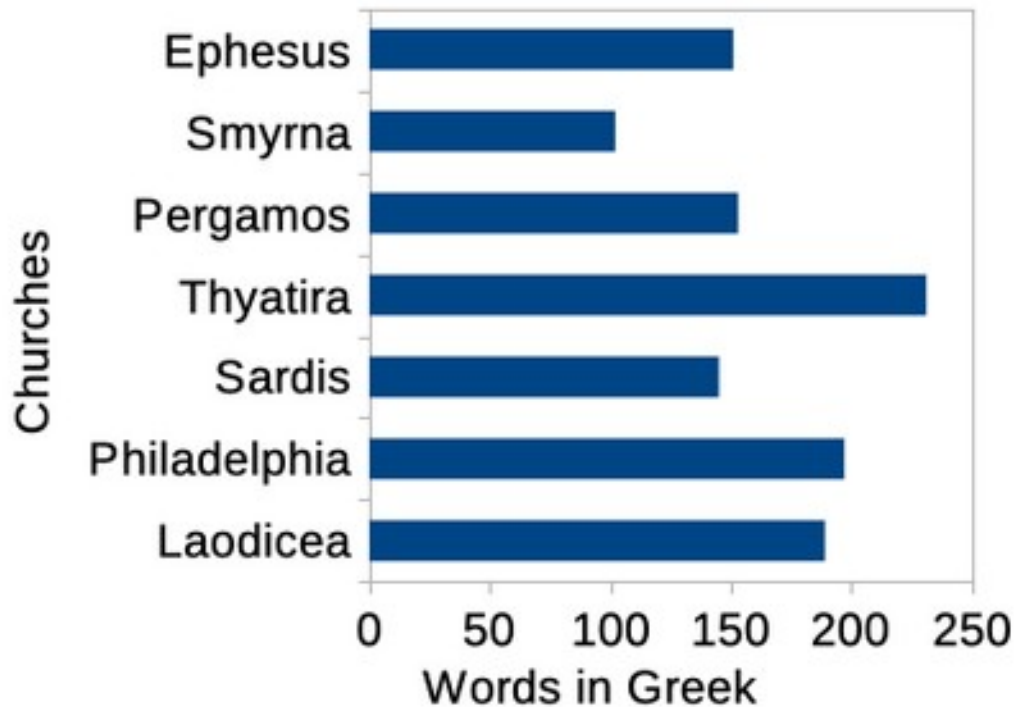


Structure of the Seven Letters

Rev 2:8-11

	Ephesus, 2:1-7	Smyrna, 2:8-11	Pergamos, 2:12-17	Thyatira, 2:18-29	Sardis, 3:1-6	Philadelphia, 3:7-13	Laodicea, 3:14-22
Command to write	1a	8a	12a	18a	1a	7a	14a
Title from ch. 1	1b	8b	12b	18b	1b	7b	14b
Message	2-6	9-10	13-16	19-25	1c-4	8-11	15-20
I know thy works	2a	9a	13a	19a	1c	8a	15a
Praise	2-3	9b	13	19		8-11	
Exhortation		10				11b	
Criticism	4-5		14-16	20-23	2-3		15-20
Exhortation	5		16		3		18-19
Praise	6			24	4		
Exhortation	5	10	16	25	3	11b	18-19
Promise to Overcomers				26-28	5	12	21
Let him hear	7a	11a	17a	29	6	13	22
Promise to Overcomers	7b	11b	17b				

Background on Smyrna



https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Innocents_Abroad/Chapter_XXXIX

Matt. 2:11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and **myrrh**.

John 19:39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of **myrrh** and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.



https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/C_1896-0601-69

Ramsay p. 259

Revelation 2:9

9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.



6/5/2022

Bilman Patry

Helpful References on 2:9-10

Poverty (but thou art rich)

James 2:5 Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?

blasphemy

Acts 26:11 And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to **blaspheme**;

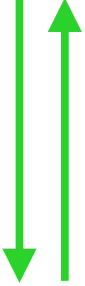
Act 13:45 But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and **blaspheming**.

Acts 18:5 And when Silas and Timotheus were come from Macedonia, Paul was pressed in the spirit, and testified to the Jews that Jesus was Christ. 6 And when they opposed themselves, and **blasphemed**, he shook his raiment, and said unto them, Your blood be upon your own heads; I am clean: from henceforth I will go unto the Gentiles.

them which say they are Jews, and are not,

Rom 2:28 For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: 29 But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.

2:10, Exhortation to the Martyrs

Fear none		Be Faithful Crown of Life
of those things which thou shalt suffer		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devil • Prison • Testing • Tribulation

the devil shall cast some of you into prison

Who persecutes whom?
(see next slide ...)

tried G3985 ... have tribulation ten days:

Dan 1:11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 **Prove G3985** thy servants, I beseech thee, **ten days**; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. ... 14 So he consented to them in this matter, and **proved** them **ten days**. 15 And at the end of **ten days** their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Who Persecutes Whom?

Matt 5:44 But I say unto you, Love **your enemies**, bless them that **curse you**, do good to them that **hate you**, and pray for them which **despitefully use you**, and **persecute you**;

enemies ... curse ... hate ...
despitefully use ... persecute
→ Rev 2:9 false Jews

Rev 2:10 the **devil** shall
cast some of you into prison

your ... you ...
you ... you ... you

Matt 5:45 That ye may be the children of **your Father which is in heaven**: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

Act 9:4 And [Saul] fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why **persecutest thou me**? 5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am **Jesus whom thou persecutest**:

The Temples of Pergamos

Excavated by Karl Humann, 1878-1886, for the Berlin Museum



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pergamon_Museum_Berlin_hm.jpg

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320860001/figure/fig1/AS:631662295662650@1527611435974/Pergamon-Zeus-Altar-and-Acropolis-Reconstruction-Drawing_W640.jpg

The Serpents of Pergamos

Home of the temple of Asclepius (god of healing)

- Symbol: serpent on a rod

Birthplace of Galen (129-216)

Rev 20:2 And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, (cf. 12:9)

<https://doi.org/10.4103%2F0975-7406.155794>



https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection/object/C_2002-0101-1449



Ramsay p. 258

