

November 10, 2024 "Sardis" Rick Raines rraines@fairmountcc.org

In this Year of Jesus, we are enjoying these <u>letters</u> written to us from our Lord.

Our fifth letter is Jesus' correspondence with the church in **Sardis**.

This letter features more **<u>condemnation</u>** than **<u>commendation</u>**.

Their plight boiled down to one thing: they looked **<u>alive</u>**, but they were **<u>dead</u>**.

<u>Revelation 3:1</u> I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.

They suffered from being **superficial**.

The **remedy** for the superficial:

Revelation 3:2-3

Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent.

- Wake up
- <u>Strengthen</u>
- <u>Remember</u>

The consequences of living spiritually dead are **tragic**.

Revelation 3:3

But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

The blessings of living spiritually alive are eternal.

Revelation 3:4-5

Yet you have a few people in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes. They will walk with me, dressed in white, for they are worthy. The one who is victorious will, like them, be dressed in white. I will never blot out the name of that person from the book of life, but will acknowledge that name before my Father and his angels.