

Last week we studied the Apocalypse of St. John Chapter 2:18 up to Chapter 3 verse 6 which continued to focus on our Lord's prophetic messages to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor, including His message to the Church of Tyatira (2:18) and His message to the Church of Sardis (3:1-6).

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND: We as a Church never read the book of the Apocalypse (it is not on our lectionary). So this is a unique opportunity for us as individuals and collectively as a Church to see what God has to say to us through this book. Let's make the most of this opportunity!

ONE THEOLOGICAL & LITURGICAL NOTE ON THESE CHAPTERS OF THE APOCALYPSE: Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko states:

"In [this section of] the Apocalypse you have very heavily liturgical language. You have very mystical language that for an Orthodox Christian out of Jewish tradition, would be very close to what their experience was of faith in Church, particularly on liturgical worship. Because as you know, being Orthodox, our worship is very material: We eat, we drink, we anoint, we process, we wash, and we wear robes. You see we do all this just like [is done] in the book of Revelation. So the verse to Ephesus it says, 'To him who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life which is the paradise of God.' Now for a Christian 'eating of the tree of life' meant partaking of the Eucharistic sacrifice [and] 'in the paradise of God' was to belong to the Church."

On the Apocalypse (Disk 2 Track 1- 4 min).