

Overcome The Hindrances

Get In The Game

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Introduction

Revelation 2:1-7 - You Have Forsaken Your First Love

“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:

These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. ² I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. ³ You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.

⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. ⁵ Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. ⁶ But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

⁷ Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

See also Matthew 22:34-40

Main idea: To get in the game, you must overcome many hindrances. The core hindrance is a lack of love for Christ and His church.

4 Steps To Loving Christ And His Church With All Your Heart

1. Honestly evaluate your love for Christ and His church.
2. Make the decision to put Christ and His church first in everything.
3. Cultivate your love by engaging in spiritual habits.
4. Realize the serious consequences of not loving Christ and His church with all your heart.