

In Chapters 2 and 3 of the book of Revelation, “The Seven Churches” are “the testing of the ‘image of God’ [reflection of Jesus Christ’s Glory] in the midst of the cosmos” → His παρουσία

THE SEVENFOLD STRUCTURE OF THE MESSAGES TO THE SEVEN CHURCHES

References from Chapter 1

vv 1, 20	1. “To the angel”	(apostolic/prophetic element)
vv 10, 11, 12, 15 (see Acts 21:11)	2. “These things says [the words of] / [thus saith the Lord]	(prophetic utterance)
v 13	3. “He who”	(testimony or image of the Lord)
vv 14, 15, 16	4. “I know (your works)” [specifics of each church]	(judgment of the Lord)
vv 8, 19	5. “I will (come)”	(ethical sanctions or rewards)
vv 4, 10	6. “He that hath an ear let him hear . . . the Spirit”	(voice of the Lord)
vv 3, 6, 9, 18 (see Rev 3:21; 5:5)	7. “He that overcomes”	(promises of kingdom blessings)