



# REVELATION 25 – SARDIS: DEAD DECEIVED CHURCH

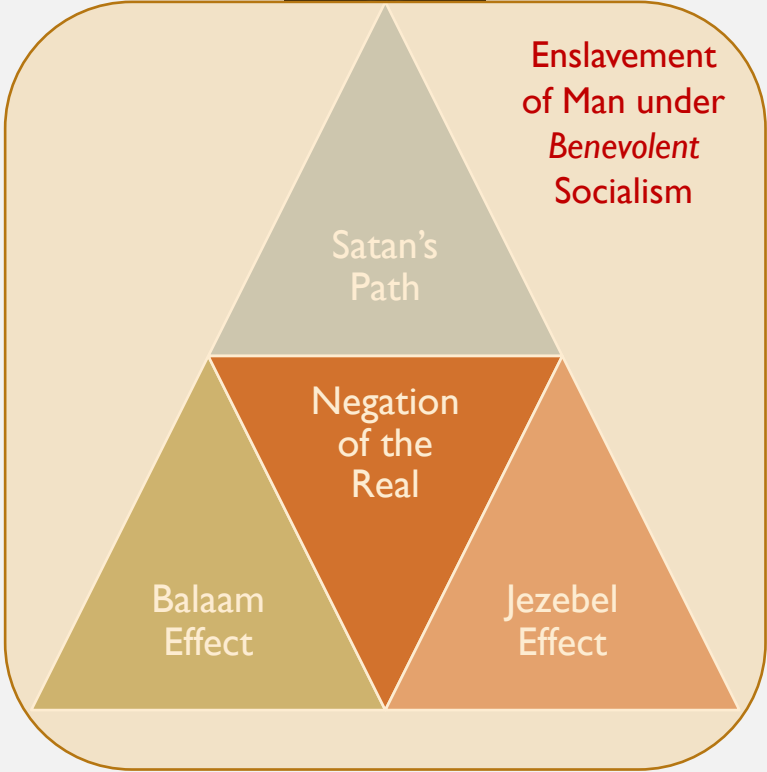
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Revelation 3:1-3

# PROLOGUE: SATAN'S *DEEP SIMULACRUM REALITY* – LOGICAL FALLACY DELUSION

- Satan's Simulacrum requires acceptance of Logical Fallacies over Logic's Laws (Is 1:18)
- God allows this Delusion; sinners want a world without God: Degradation and Violent (Ro 1:18-32; 2Th 2:3-12)
- False Teachers enter churches via *weak* believers as viruses infecting His body
- Christ warns believers to reject Satan's *deep, special knowing* {Foolishness} (1Co 1:18-31; 2:12-14)
- God's Spirit via Reason-Faith-Bible teaches True *Knowing* {Wisdom} rejecting *mystic knowing* {*Simulacrum or Delusion*} (Is 1:18; 1Co 2:14; 2Th 2:3-12; He 5:11-14; 11:1-3)

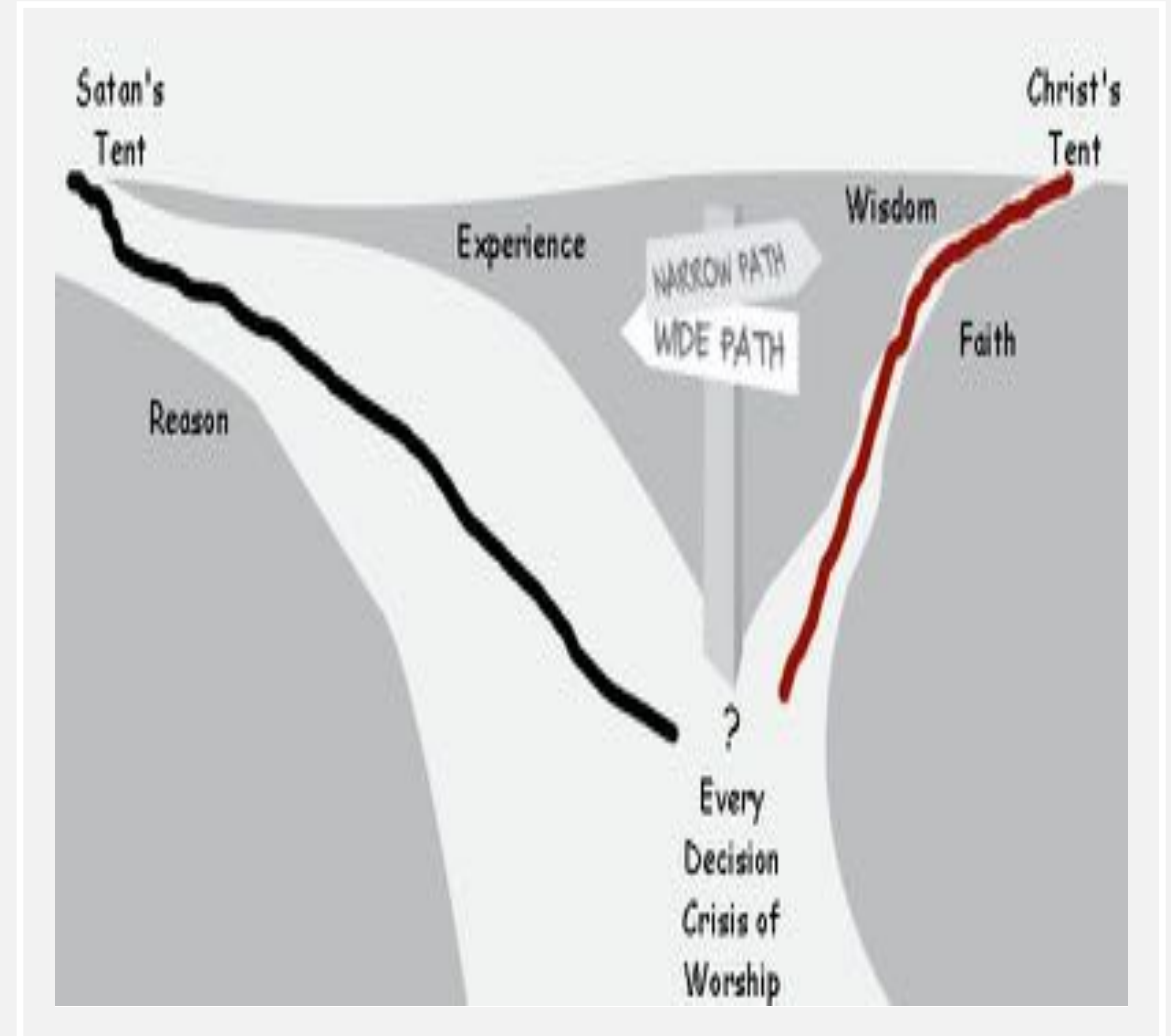


Satan's All-Seeing  
Eye of Control



# PROLOGUE – CHRIST KNOWS YOUR WORKS

- Worship is a continual state: Your decisions reveal your truth-worship (1Sa 16:7)
- Wide Path: Bordered by *Fallen Reason* {Scientism} & Experience {Feelings-*I Think*}
  - Satan's Tent: *Self-righteous Works* – enforced unity {Lie of *Diversity*} (1Sa 15:23; Jn 8:4-47)
- Narrow Path: Bordered by Wisdom {Bible-guided *Knowing*} and Faith {Gift of Spirit}
  - Christ's Tent: Our *New Nature*: Works reveal Christ **in** Us {True Diversity in Him} (Ga 2:20; Col 1:27; Ja 2:17-26)



## SARDIS: HOME OF MODERN'S TREASURE

- Modernity did not begin in the major empires of Assyria, Babylon or even Egypt; it began in a small sliver of Asia Minor: Sardis
  - Just as Homer's epic poems rewrote an ancient Mycenaean Conflict, Troy, reshaping Hellenism that would lay the foundation of Rome and Western government(s)
  - Sardis developed Coinage making wealth efficiently portable allowing empires, and later nation-states, to easily project Control
  - Sardis reached its zenith under King Croesus whom Cyrus, Persia, defeated and incorporated coinage along with the writing system developed by the Hebrews, but received via the Phoenicians, along with its efficient roadways terminating at Sardis
  - Like Pergamum, Sardis was situated on a rocky acropolis and twice defeated through deception: Persia & Crete {Hellen's stratagem at Troy; without the Horse}

Possibly *play on words*; rather than Helen of Troy it should be understood as Hellenism of Troy

# CHRIST OF SEVEN SPIRITS – EPISKOPOI: I **KNOW** YOU {INWARDLY}

- Christ presents Himself as Lord of the Spirit which guides each Church's episkopos or elder: {Seven – Completion} (Jn 16:13-15)
  - Refers to Ezekiel's vision which appears throughout Revelation; *wheels* are the Spirit guiding Cherubim {Four Faces} under Christ's throne {*Mercy Seat*} (Ex 25:17-22; Ez 1; He 9)
  - Lord *knows* the Works of the Lost and Saved *seeing* their heart by the Spirit {Seven eyes} {Asa, King of Judah, did not believe; persecuting believers} (1Sa 16:7; 2Ch 16:7-10; Ze 4:6-10)
  - Sardis' Church *appeared* alive but inwardly dead, lost works; church remained worldly *strong* even under Islamic rule for a time due to its pragmatism {End-Means}
  - Christ tells them to waken to their danger; they cannot accomplish their mission for Him because they have embraced the World {Satan} like the Pharisees (Ro 11:13-24)

# CHRISTIANS TODAY: APPEAR ALIVE BUT ARE DEAD

- Sardis was a religious city: Temple to Artemis, synagogue & the Church
  - These all dwelt together even after Islam replaced paganism; their harmony grew out of their commonality which was not Christ but works-based religiosity {Worldliness}
  - Church, *whitewashed* but filled with death, secure in its *peaceful* arrangement (Mt 23:27-28)
- Majority of what *passes* for Christianity today is Christendom: Dead (2Ti 3:1-5)
  - *Appearance* of Christian but comfortably coexisting in peace with the World (Ja 4:1-4)
  - Christ and the World cannot coexist; mutually exclusive to each other (Ro 8:5-11; Ja 4:5-8)
  - *Appearance of Strength Through Diversity*, Equality demands everyone be the same: Works-based system appearing diverse; however, a few remain truly different; walking with Christ (Ph 3:17-21; Col 2:6-10)