

What is God Saying to Elim?

(Revelation 2-3)

Church Cardiology:

Strengthening the Heart of Our Church, No. 3







Asia Minor

(3) Pergamum

(4) Thyatira

(5) Sardis

(6) Philadelphia


(7) Laodicea

(2) Smyrna

(1) Ephesus

The Seven Churches in Revelation

Communication Pattern

- 1) **Destination**
 - 2) **Description of the Jesus Christ**
 - 3) **Compliment and/or**
 - 4) **Criticism**
 - 5) **Counsel**
 - 6) **Promise**
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Listening to God's Heart

**1. God values what a church has done
in His name.**

2.

3.



2:2—I know your deeds, hard work and perseverance.

2:19—I know your deeds, love, faith, service, perseverance, and...you are now doing more than you did at first.

3:1, 8, 15—I know your deeds.



Listening to God's Heart

**1. God values what a church has done
in His name.**

2.

3.



Listening to God's Heart

- 1. God values what a church has done in His name.**
- 2. God communicates specific messages to each local church.**
- 3.**



Revelation 2:12 (NIV)

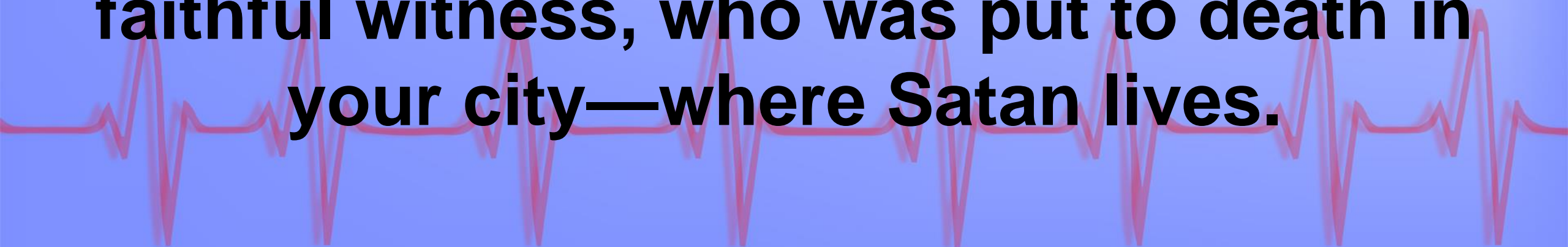
**“To the angel of the church in
Pergamum write:**

**These are the words of him who has
the sharp, double-edged sword.**



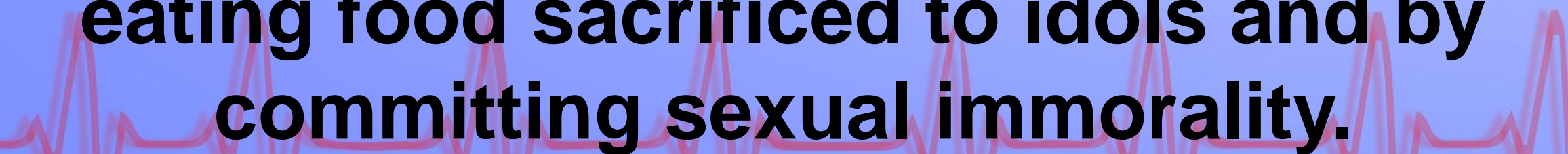
Revelation 2:13 (NIV)

I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.



Revelation 2:14 (NIV)

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality.

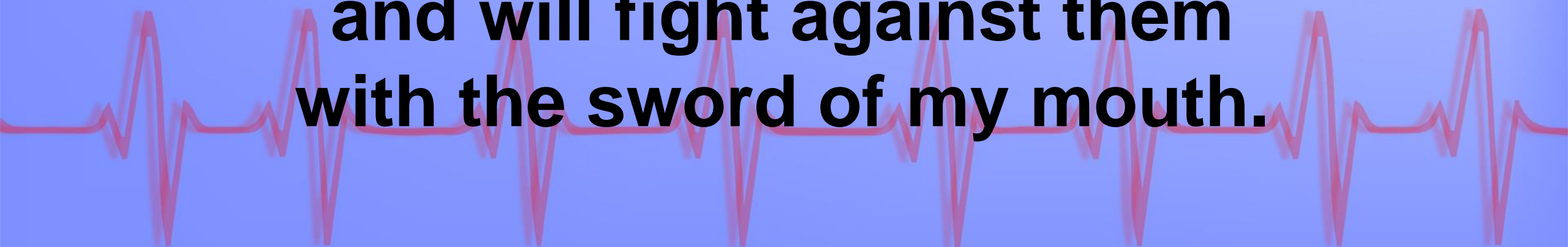


Revelation 2:15-16 (NIV)

Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

¹⁶Repent therefore!

Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.



Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 29; 3:6, 13, 22 (NIV)

**“He who has ears to hear,
let him hear
what the Spirit says to the churches.**




Listening to God's Heart

- 1. God values what a church has done in His name.**
- 2. God communicates specific messages to each local church.**

3.



Listening to God's Heart

- 1. God values what a church has done in His name.**
 - 2. God communicates specific messages to each local church.**
 - 3. God wants a church to improve over time, but is aware it may fail to make that choice.**
- 


Revelation 2:22 (NIV)

**So I will cast her on a bed of suffering,
and I will make those who commit
adultery with her suffer intensely,
unless they repent of her ways.**




Revelation 2:23 (NIV)

**I will strike her children dead.
Then all the churches will know
that I am he who searches hearts and
minds, and I will repay each of you
according to your deeds.**



Listening to God's Heart

- 1. God values what a church has done in His name.**
 - 2. God communicates specific messages to each local church.**
 - 3. God wants a church to improve over time, but is aware it may fail to make that choice.**
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Listening to God's Heart

4. God desires corporate spiritual cleanness, no matter what our history or reputation.


5.

6.



Revelation 3:2 (NIV)

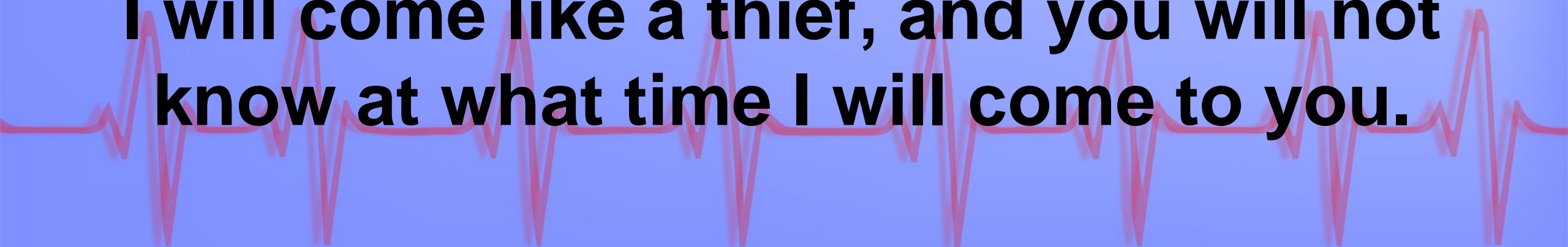
**Wake up!
Strengthen what remains
and is about to die,
for I have not found your deeds
complete in the sight of my God.**



Revelation 3:3 (NIV)

**Remember, therefore,
what you have received and heard;
obey it, and repent.**


**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.**



1 Corinthians 5:6b–7a (NIV)

Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough?

⁷Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast—as you really are.



Revelation 2:20 (NIV)

Nevertheless, I have this against you:

**You tolerate that woman Jezebel,
who calls herself a prophetess.**

**By her teaching she misleads my servants
into sexual immorality**

and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.




Revelation 3:17 (NIV)

**You say, 'I am rich;
I have acquired wealth
and do not need a thing.'**

**But you do not realize
that you are wretched, pitiful, poor,
blind and naked.**



Listening to God's Heart

- 4. God desires corporate spiritual cleanness, no matter what our history or reputation.**
 - 5. God exposes what most churches would prefer to hide about themselves.**
 - 6.**
- 


Revelation 2:4 (NIV)

**Yet I hold this against you:
You have forsaken your first love.**



Revelation 2:14 (NIV)

Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: You have people there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin by eating food sacrificed to idols and by committing sexual immorality.




Revelation 2:15-16 (NIV)

Likewise you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

¹⁶Repent therefore!

Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.



Listening to God's Heart

- 6. God expects churches to make things right with Him and with each other.**



Worship Project

Write an “eighth letter” to Elim EFC.



Eighth Letter

Destination: “To Elim EFC write:

Description of Jesus Christ: _____

Compliment: _____?

[What positive message would Jesus give our church?]

Criticism: _____?

[What would Jesus say needs to be corrected?]

Counsel: _____?

[What would Jesus tell us to do in order to get right with Him?]

Promise: _____?

[What would Jesus promise us who are courageous enough to obey Him?]



Eighth Letter

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Description of Jesus Christ: _____

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