

"THE SOUNDNESS THAT CHRIST COMMENDS"

REVELATION 2:2-3,6

I. CHRIST CONSIDERS A CHURCH SOUND WHEN IT IS INTOLERANT OF *EVIL* PEOPLE (2:2a)

- A. The Particular Kind Of Evil Is Not Specified Because The Works of Evil People Are Defined Throughout Scripture
 - 1. You Would Think That A Hard Working, Orthodox Assembly Would Be The Last Place That One Would Find Evil People
 - 2. Even Secular Society Understands What Destroys Civilizations From Within
- B. The Exemplary Soundness That Christ Is Commending Is A Soundness That Cannot Be Passive When It Comes To Evil People

II. CHRIST CONSIDERS A CHURCH SOUND WHEN IT RECOGNIZES AND DEALS WITH SPURIOUS SPIRITUAL LEADERS (2:2b)

- A. The Apostolic Office Was The Highest Level of Leadership In First Century Christianity
 - 1. Each Legitimate Apostle Was Uniquely Hand Picked By Christ
 - 2. There Were Some In Ephesus Who Were Claiming This Kind Of Unique Status
- B. The Church At Ephesus Had Heeded Paul's Warning, So That Even Fifty Years Later, They Were Still Trying And Finding Some To Be *Liars*

III. CHRIST CONSIDERS A CHURCH SOUND WHEN IT HAS A HOLY HATRED FOR THE THINGS THAT CHRIST HATES (2:6)

- A. Summary Of *The Nicolaitans*
- B. Christ Likeness Is Not Being Tolerant, Gentle & Mild Toward Error