

# Wake Up, Strengthen, and Walk in White

November 16, 2025 | *Revelation 3:1-6*



## Observation: What is happening here?

- **v. 1:** Christ speaks to the church in Sardis. He identifies Himself as the One who has the *seven Spirits of God* and the *seven stars*. This is to show the presence of the (sevenfold) Holy Spirit with the churches, then and now.
- **v. 1:** Jesus recognizes the works of Sardis. The church has had a **reputation** of being **alive**, but they are **dead**. This is to show that appearance and reality are **not** the same. The church appears to be lacking the guidance of the Spirit.
- **v. 2:** He commands them to **wake up** and **strengthen** what remains because what remains is about to die. Their works are **incomplete** before God.
- **v. 3:** Christ shows what the path back looks like:
  - **Remember** what you received and heard (The Gospel), **keep** it, and **repent** (to continue to change your mind and be transformed).
  - Christ warns of **judgment**: He will come *like a thief* if they do not wake up.
- **vv. 4-5:** A **few** (the remnant) have not *soiled their garments*. Christ promises **white garments**, names in the **Book of Life**, and to **confess** their names before the Father.

**Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:1-6; Isaiah 11:1-2; Zechariah 3:3-5; Daniel 12:1; Psalm 119:55-60; 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6; Luke 12:35-48; Matthew 24:42-44.*

**Ontario Community Church:** Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.  
John 6:47 (ESV) "*Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.*"

## **Interpretation: What can we learn?**

### **Doing good requires being led by the Spirit**

- Sardis looked alive but lacked the movement of the Spirit. In the same way, the *seven Spirits* represent the fullness of the Holy Spirit (*Isaiah 11:1-2*): (1) Spirit of the LORD, (2) wisdom, (3) understanding, (4) counsel, (5) might, (6) knowledge, and (7) fear of the LORD.
- Christ brings what Sardis is missing; complete, Spirit-empowered life.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:1-2; Isaiah 11:2; Ephesians 5:14; Romans 13:11-12; 1 Samuel 16:7.*

### **An awakening requires us to remember, keep, and repent**

- Christ gives a clear path for awakening: (1) Remember what you received (the Gospel). (2) Keep it (guard it, treasure it). (3) Repent: (change your mind, and be continually transformed.)
- *Psalm 119:55-60* shows this pattern: remember, keep, and repent.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:3; Psalm 119:55-60; Revelation 2:5; Acts 3:19.*

### **Overcomers are clothed, written, and confessed with Christ**

- To the faithful one (the remnant), Christ promises: (1) Clothed in white: purity and victory. (2) Names in the Book of Life: eternal security. (3) Confessed before the Father: public acknowledgment.
- This echoes *Zechariah 3:3-5* (clean garments) and *Daniel 12:1* (names in the book).
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:4-5; Zechariah 3:3-5; Daniel 12:1; Matthew 10:32.*

## **Application: How should we live?**

### **Believe in the Lord and be born again in the Spirit**

- Awakening cannot happen without faith in Christ. Believe in His death, burial, and resurrection. Be saved. Be born again by the Spirit.
- From there, let the sevenfold Spirit guide you and grow you in Christ.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:3; John 3:5-8; Romans 10:17.*

### **Grow in Christ and be led by the sevenfold Spirit**

- Strengthen what remains. Be built up by the sevenfold Spirit.
- These are the qualities Sardis lacked and Christ provides to us today; to the churches and to us personally in our walk with the Lord.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:2; Isaiah 11:2; Hebrews 12:12-13; Colossians 2:6-7.*

### **Do good in the name of Christ, led by the Spirit**

- We are saved to do good in Christ's name. But these works must flow from the Spirit, not replace the Spirit.
- Good works are evidence of Christ's work in us. Look for one opportunity this week to display the fruit of the Spirit.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 3:4-5; Matthew 5:16; Galatians 5:25; Colossians 3:17.*