

## **Week 2: Chapters 2 & 3**

### **Seven Letters to Seven Churches**

**For this session make see your handout on the letters to the 7 churches.**

Quote to consider:

“The messages to the seven churches establish a context in which readers of Revelation can ponder the meaning of the visions that will unfold in the next chapters. We have seen that those who were first addressed by the book faced issues ranging from persecution, to assimilation, to the complacency that arises from prosperity. Now we will ask how the scenes of the heavenly throne room, the four horsemen, and other visions can help to awaken the complacent, to strengthen the persecuted, and to bring those tempted to assimilate to a renewed sense of faithfulness.”

Koester p. 69

**Q:** How do these personal messages to the 7 churches set the stage for what is to follow? What themes do you think will carry through? What might these churches need to hear?

**Notes:**

### **Reading for next class:**

Revelation 4-8:5

Ezekiel 1

Isaiah 6

Zechariah 1

**Worksheet:** “Seals, Trumpets, & Bowls”