



A Suffering Church
Revelation 2:8-11

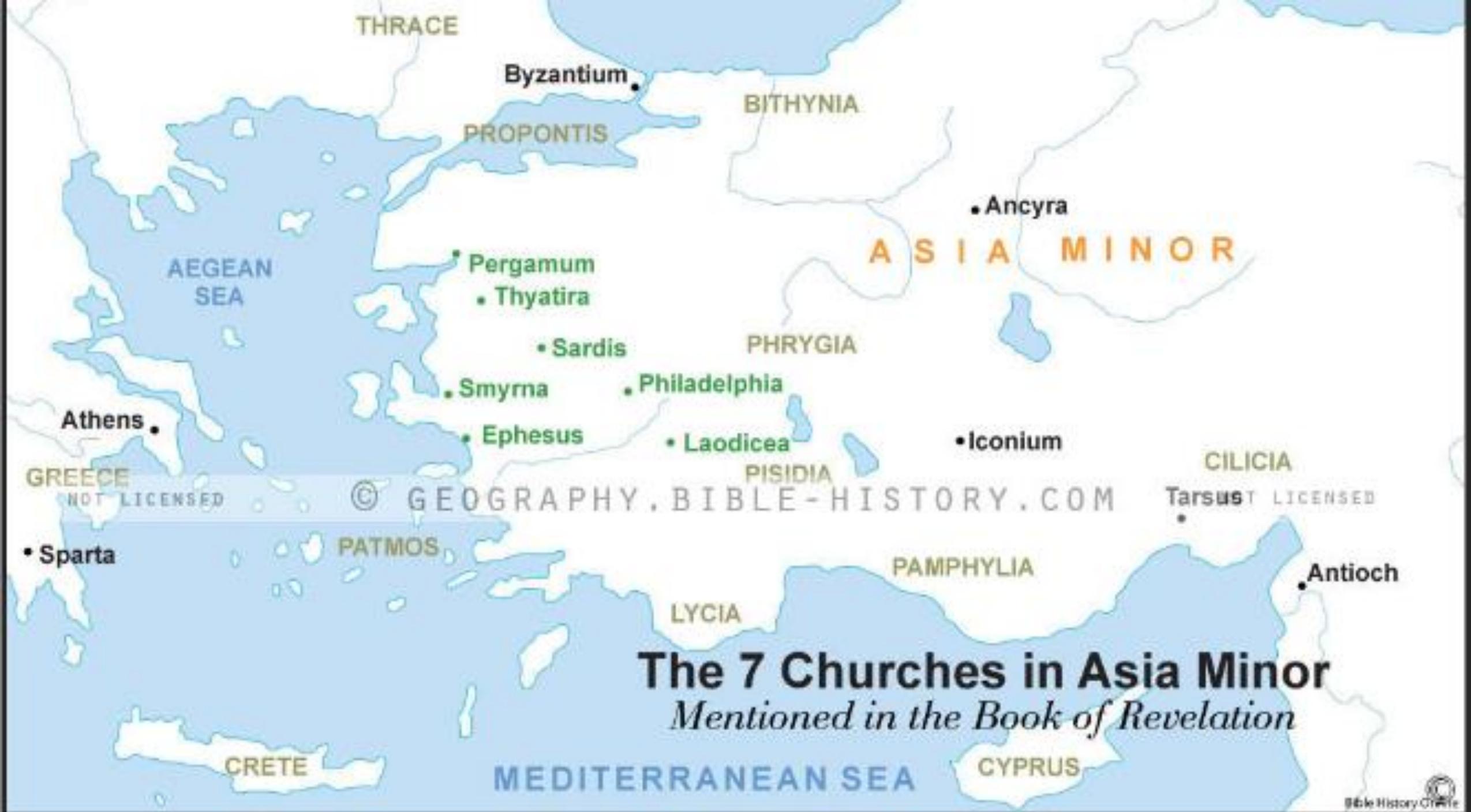
Sunday
02-18-2024

*Revelation
2:8*

*The Angel of
Smyrna*

⁸ “And to the angel
of the church in
Smyrna write,

‘These things says the
First and the Last, who
was dead, and came to
life:

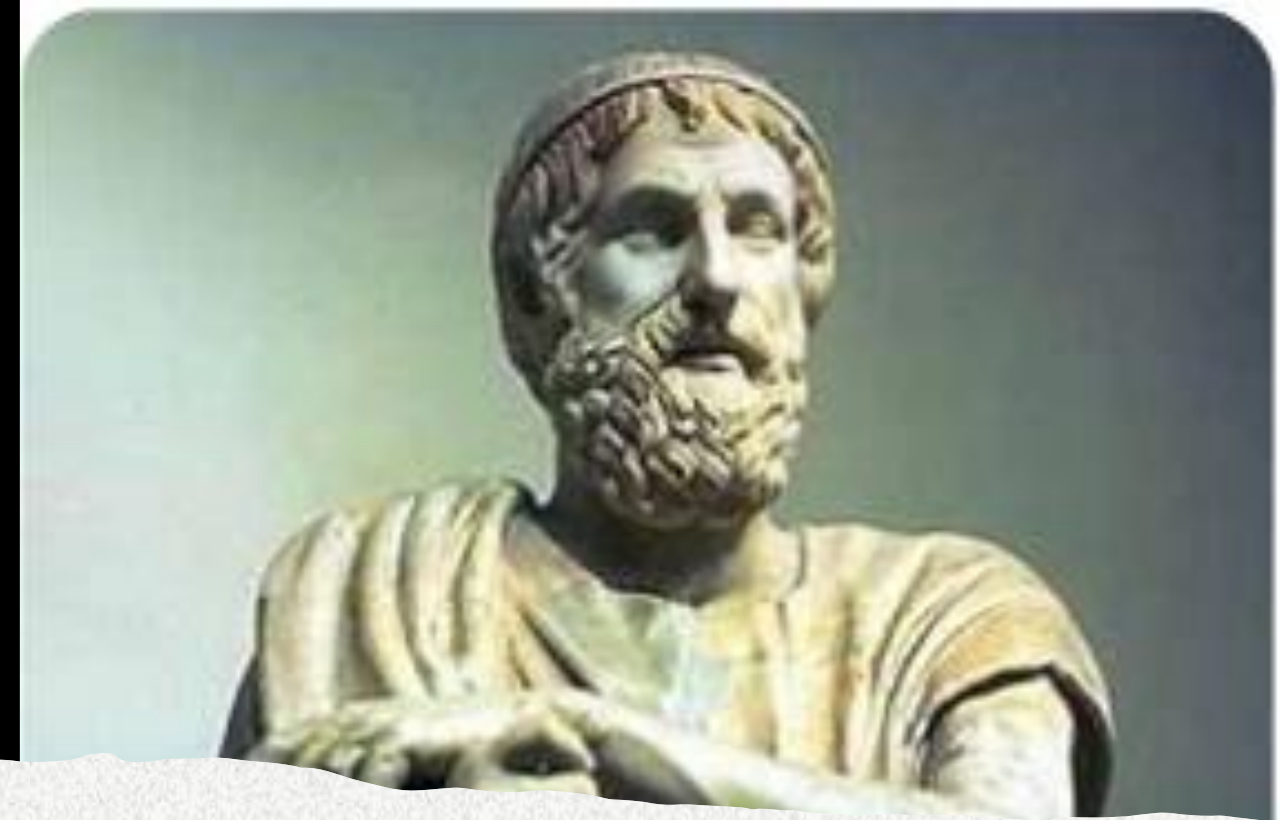




Modern Izmir



Modern Izmir



Birthplace of Homer

Rehild by Lysimachus



First Century Ruins



First Century Ruins



**Mount Pagus or
Kadifekale**

***Mount Pagus
Or
Kadifekale***





Revelation 2:8
Angel of
Smyrna

- ❑ Angel may have been Polycarp
 - Born AD 69, Martyred on February 23, 155
 - May have been born even earlier
 - Studied with John, the Apostle and taught Irenaeus of Lyon



France · Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes · Drôme ·

FRANCE

SWITZERLAND

ITALY

Clermont-Ferrand

Lyon

Geneva

Lausanne

Milan

Trento

Verona

Venice

St.-Étienne

Turin

Parma

Bologna



Albi, 81000,
Occitanie, France



Avignon, Provence-Alpes-
Côte d'Azur, France

Genoa

MONACO

Ligurian
Sea

Florence

SAN MARINO

Livorno

Perugia

Tours

Dijon

Basel
Basle

Zurich

LIECHTENSTEIN

Perpignan

ANDORRA

Gulf of Lion

Marseille



- Lyon – Peter Waldo
- Turin (Famous Shroud)
Home of Waldensians
- Albi – Albigensian
- Avignon –
(1305 – 1378)
Roman Church in France
- Another Lyon in
Pyrenees –
Vigilantius of
Comminges about 400 in
opposition to Jerome

Revelation
2:9

Smyrna or Myrrh

9 “I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and *I know* the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but *are* a synagogue of Satan.

- **Tribulation:**
thlipsis = Rigorous suffering
- **Poverty:**
ptócheia = Grinding Poverty
- ***But you are rich!!!***
- ***Blasphemy of confessing Jews***

The Curse of the Minim About AD 90



❖ **Jerome of Bethlehem
and Epiphanius of
Salamis**

➤ Around AD 400

❖ **Birkat Ha-Minim**

***The Curse of the Minim
About AD 90***

**For the Apostates let there be no hope
And may the Kingdom of the Arrogant be quickly
uprooted in our days
And may the Nazarim and Minim instantly perish
May they be blotted from the book of the living
And not be written with the righteous
Blessed are you Lord
Humbler of the Arrogant**

Revelation *2:10-11*

Smyrna's *Future*

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

11 “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.” ’