

***When the Lights Go Out – Sardis***  
***Revelation 3:1-6***

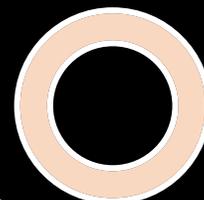
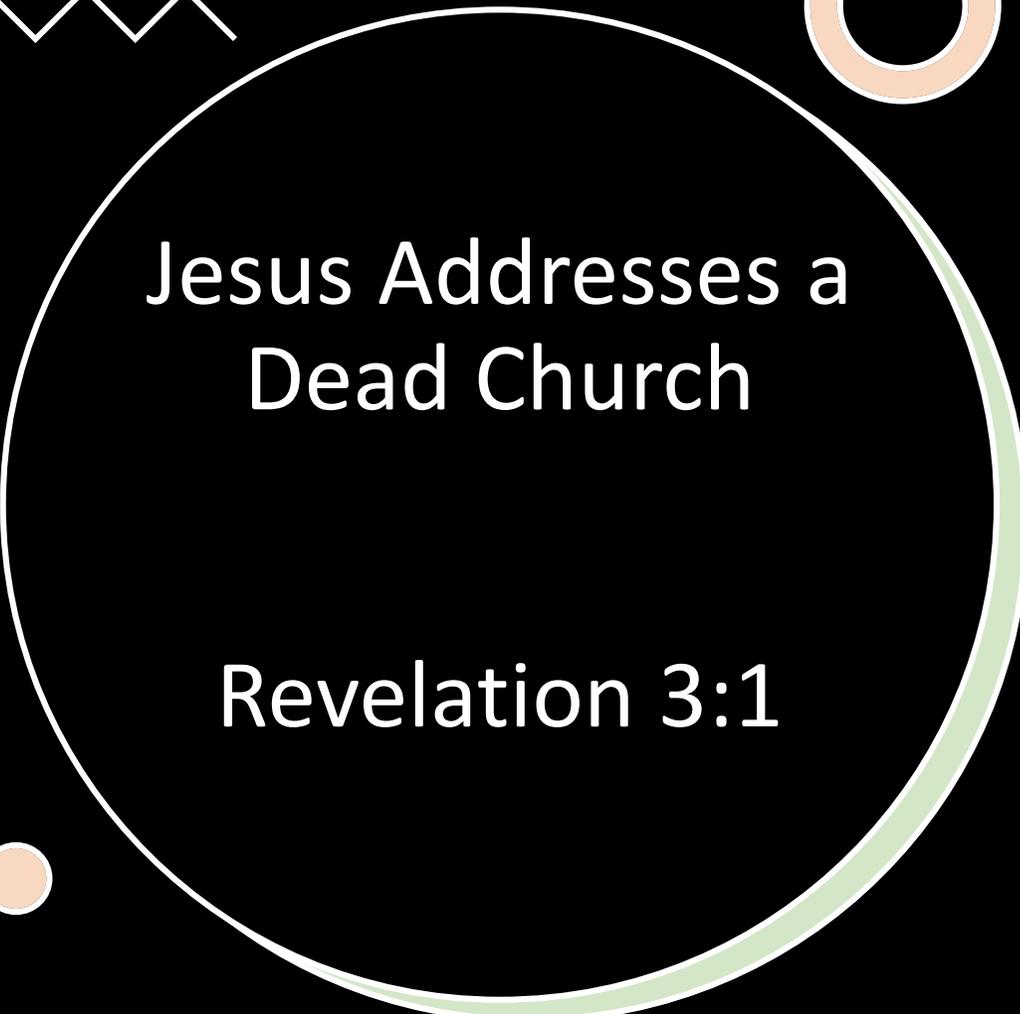
***Sunday 3-10-2024***



## *Revelation 3:1*

### *The Dead Church*

**3** And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead.'



# Jesus Addresses a Dead Church

Revelation 3:1

- The Church at Sardis
  - The seven Spirits of God
  - The One who holds the Seven Stars
  - A name of Life, but you are dead
- 



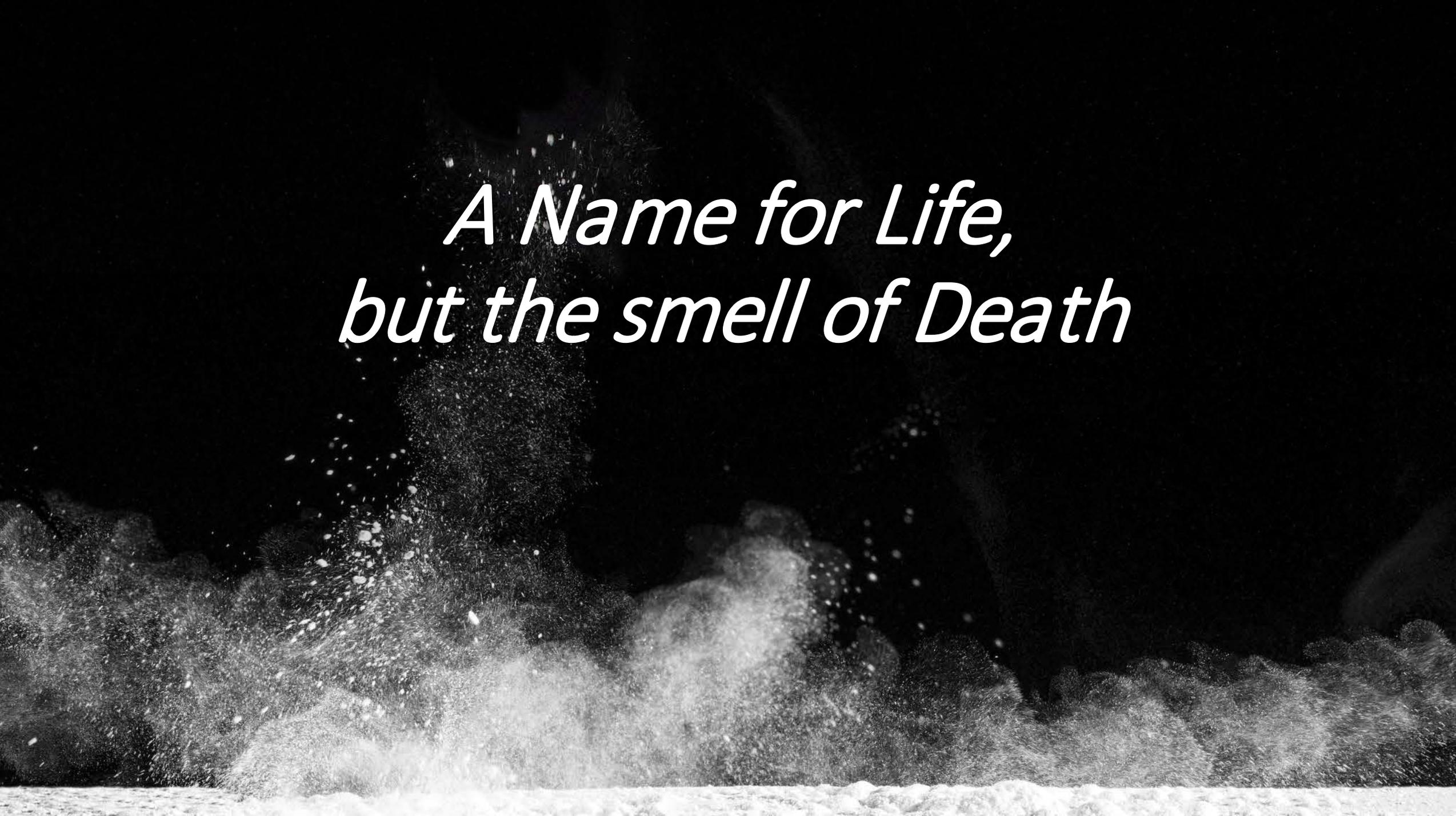


## *Historical Parallel*

- Occupied Ridge of Mount Tmolus (Bozdag)
- 1500 Feet above Valley
- Excavations are New





A black and white photograph capturing a dynamic splash of water or sand. The splash originates from the bottom edge of the frame and expands upwards and outwards, creating a complex, textured pattern of droplets and spray. The background is a deep, dark black, which makes the white and grey tones of the splash stand out sharply. The overall mood is dramatic and somewhat somber, consistent with the text overlaid on the image.

*A Name for Life,  
but the smell of Death*

## ***Revelation 3:2***

### ***Watchfulness***

<sup>2</sup> Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God.

# *Sordid History of Sardis*

- ❖ A place of Jewish exile

## **Obadiah 20**

And the captives of this host  
of the children of Israel Shall  
possess the land of the  
Canaanites  
As far as Zarephath.  
The captives of Jerusalem  
who are in Sepharad  
Shall possess the cities of  
the South.

- ❖ Sepharad references to Lud and Ludim in:
  - **Genesis 10**
  - **1 Chronicles 1** – Lydia
- ❖ Gold discovered in Pactolus River, tributary of Hermus Midas, king of Phrygia Herodotus and Strabo

- ❖ After 700 B.C. Gyges, first king of Mermnedine – (also, Gugu)
- ❖ Croesus threatened by Persians. Delphic Oracle said, "If you will cross the Halys, you will destroy a great Empire."
- ❖ Sardian soldiers' mistake— the city Falls.
- ❖ Again in 214 B.C.
- ❖ Tragic earthquake of AD 17, told by Pliny and Tacitus

## *Revelation 3:3*

## *Remedy*

<sup>3</sup> Remember therefore how you have received and heard; hold fast and repent. Therefore if you will not watch, I will come upon you as a thief, and you will not know what hour I will come upon you.

- Remember, Hold fast, Repent
- Watch or I will come as a Thief

## *Revelation 3:4-6*

## Remnant in Sardis

<sup>4</sup> You have a few names even in Sardis who have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with Me in white, for they are worthy.

<sup>5</sup> He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

<sup>6</sup> "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." '

- The few undefiled
- They walk in purity before Christ

## *Promises from God*

- ❖ *Walking in white*
- ❖ *Name indelibly engraved:*  
*- A promise, not a threat*
- ❖ *Curse of Minim*