



Q A Study in Revelation

A photograph of a movie theater audience from behind, sitting in rows of red seats. The audience is looking towards a screen at the front of the theater. The screen displays the text "You gotta love a good movie!" in a blue, typewriter-style font. The theater has red curtains on the sides and a grid of lights on the ceiling.

You gotta love
a good movie!

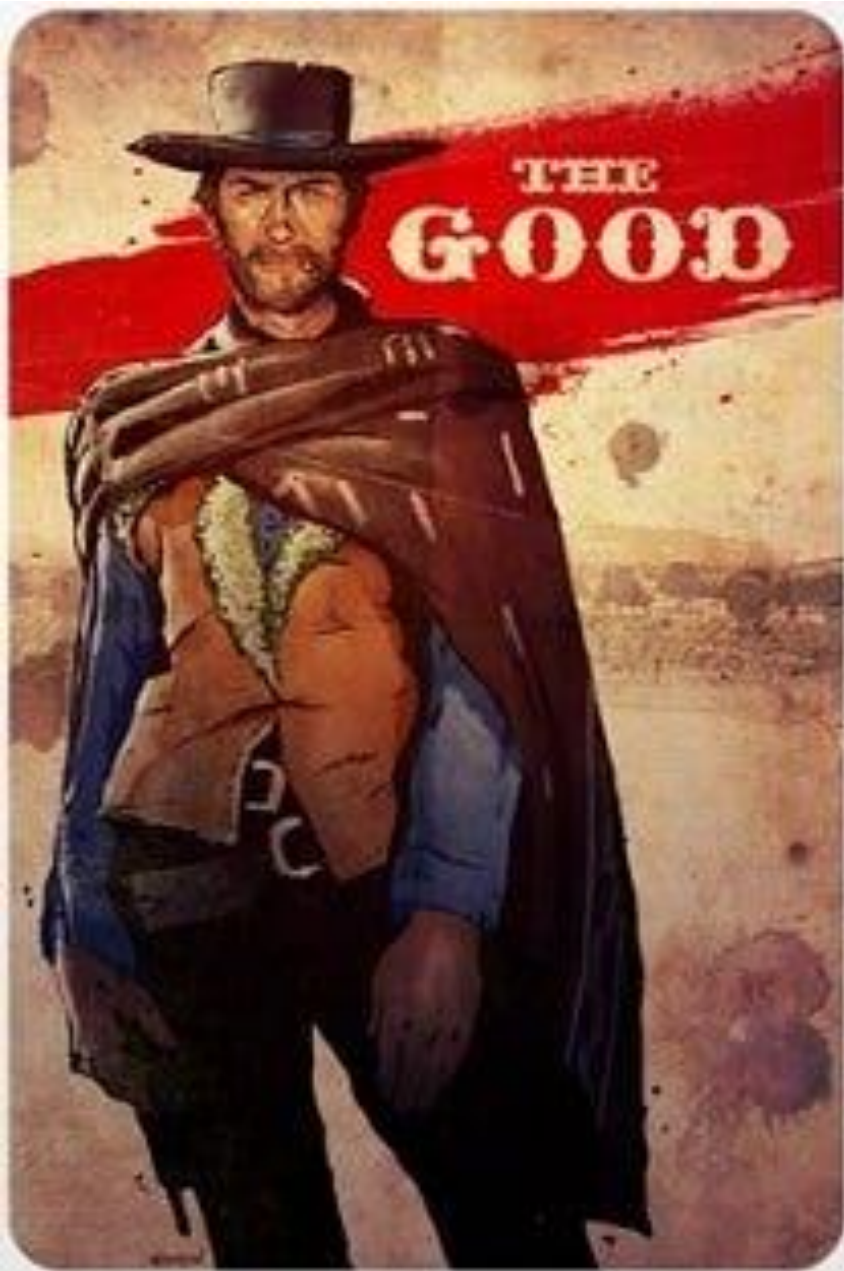
A photograph of a large audience seated in a theater, viewed from behind. The audience is filling the lower two-thirds of the frame, with many people's heads and shoulders visible. They are seated in rows of red upholstered seats. In the background, a stage is visible, framed by red curtains. The ceiling of the theater has a grid of recessed lights. A large, white, semi-transparent rectangular box is centered in the upper half of the image, containing the text "Art has a message!". A small, faint speaker icon is positioned over the letter 's' in the word "message!".

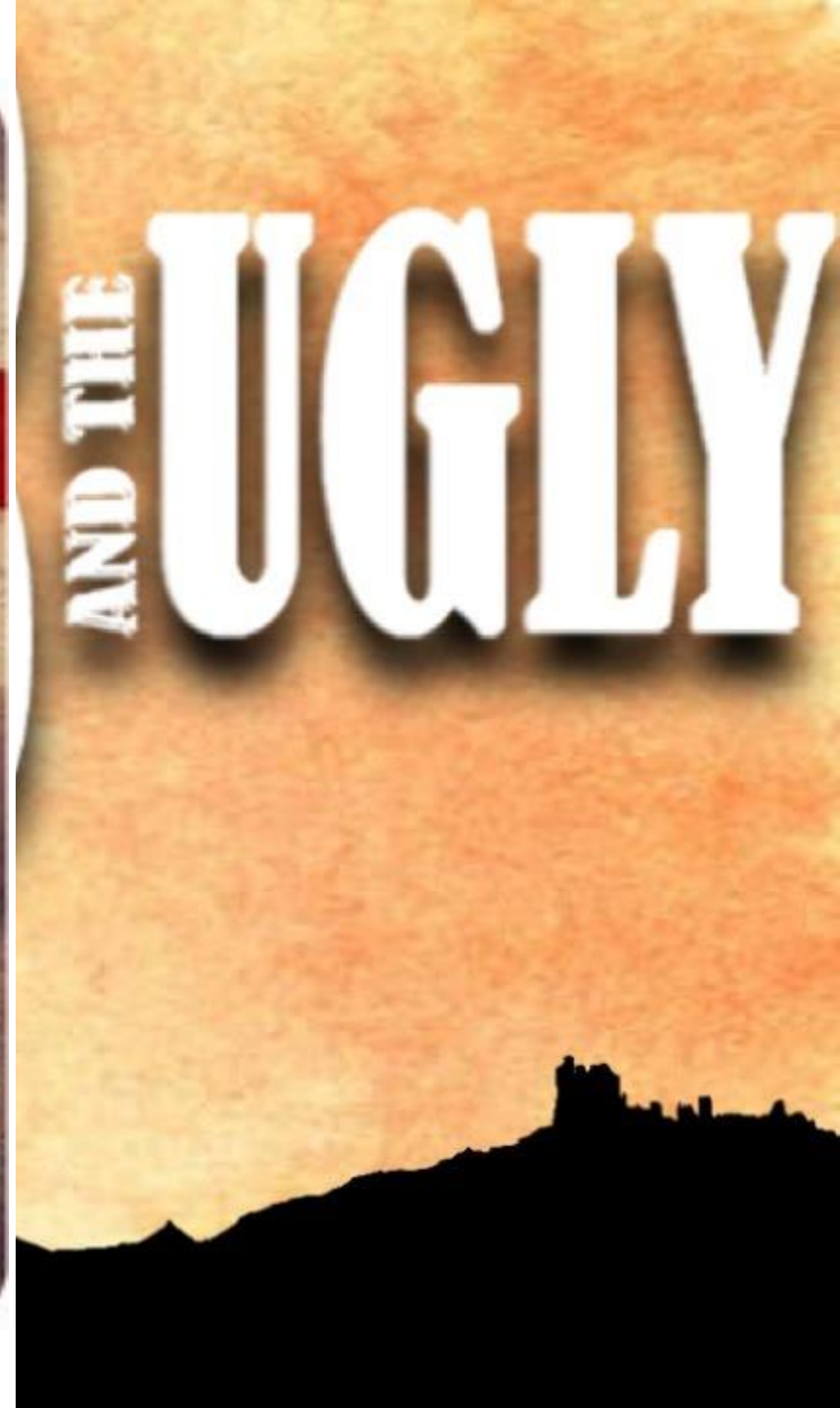
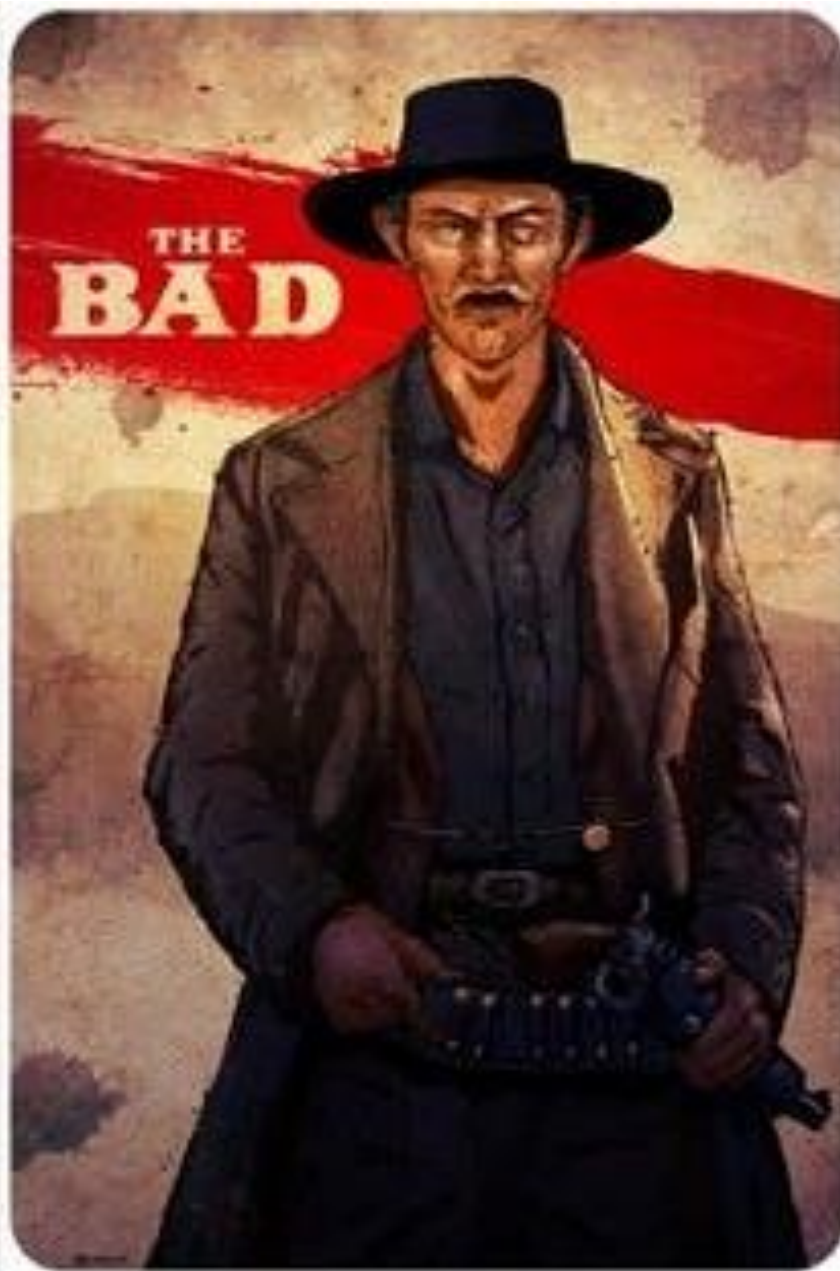
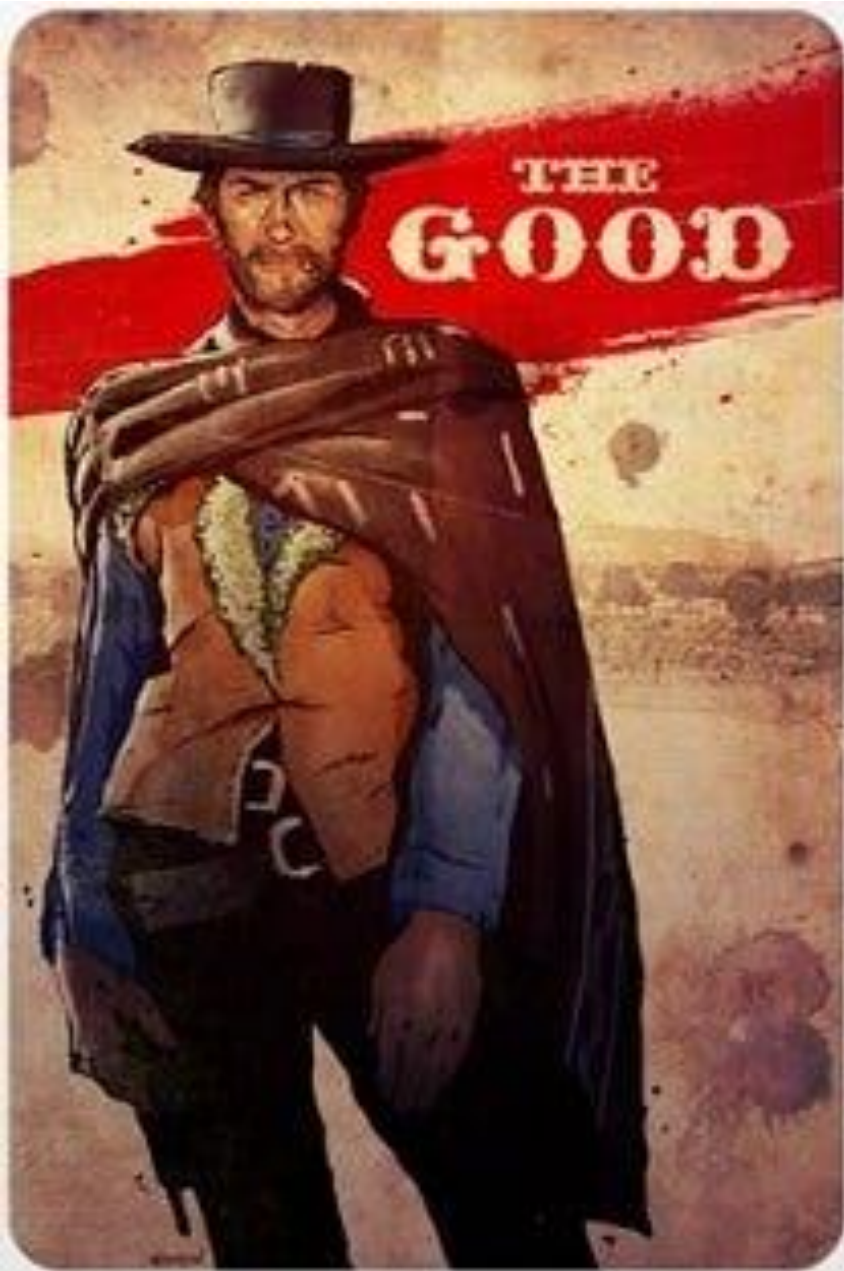
Art has a
message!

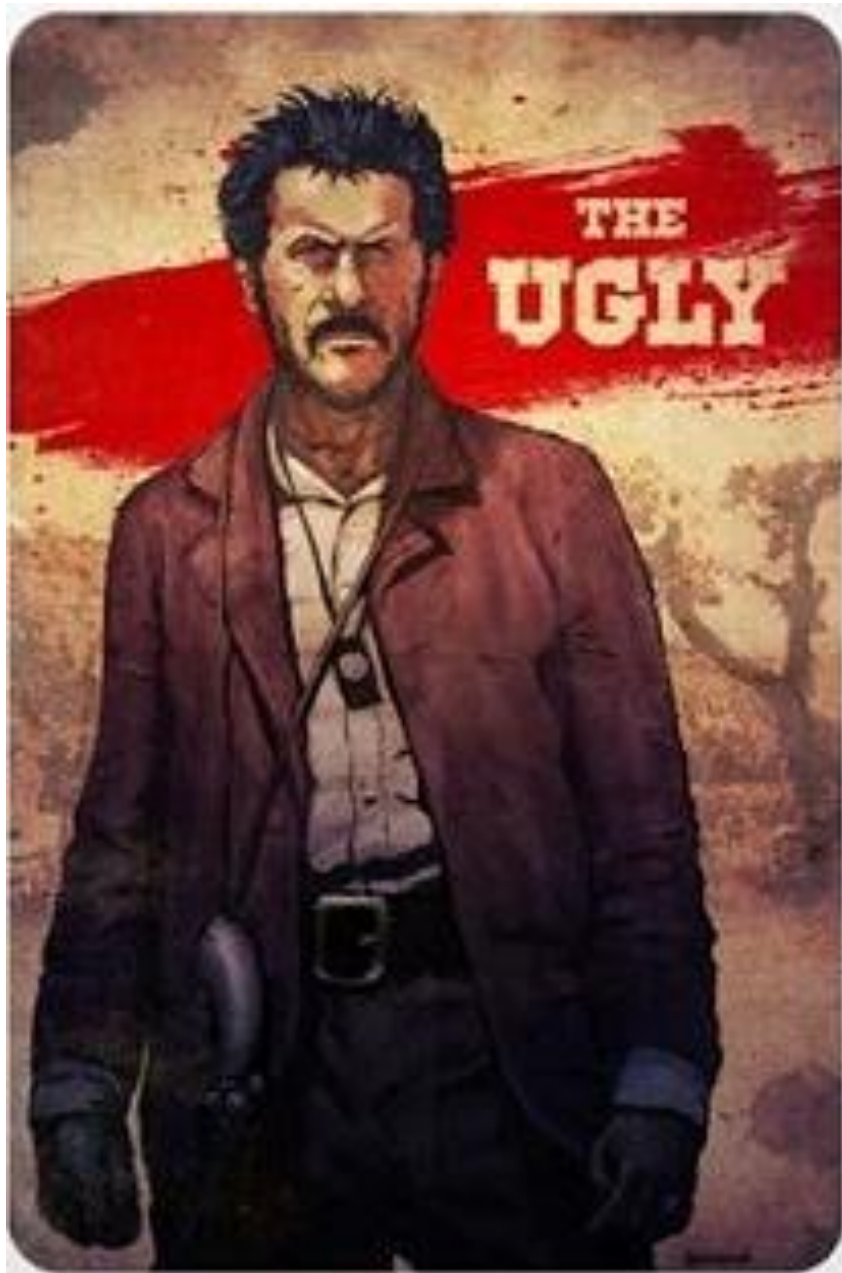
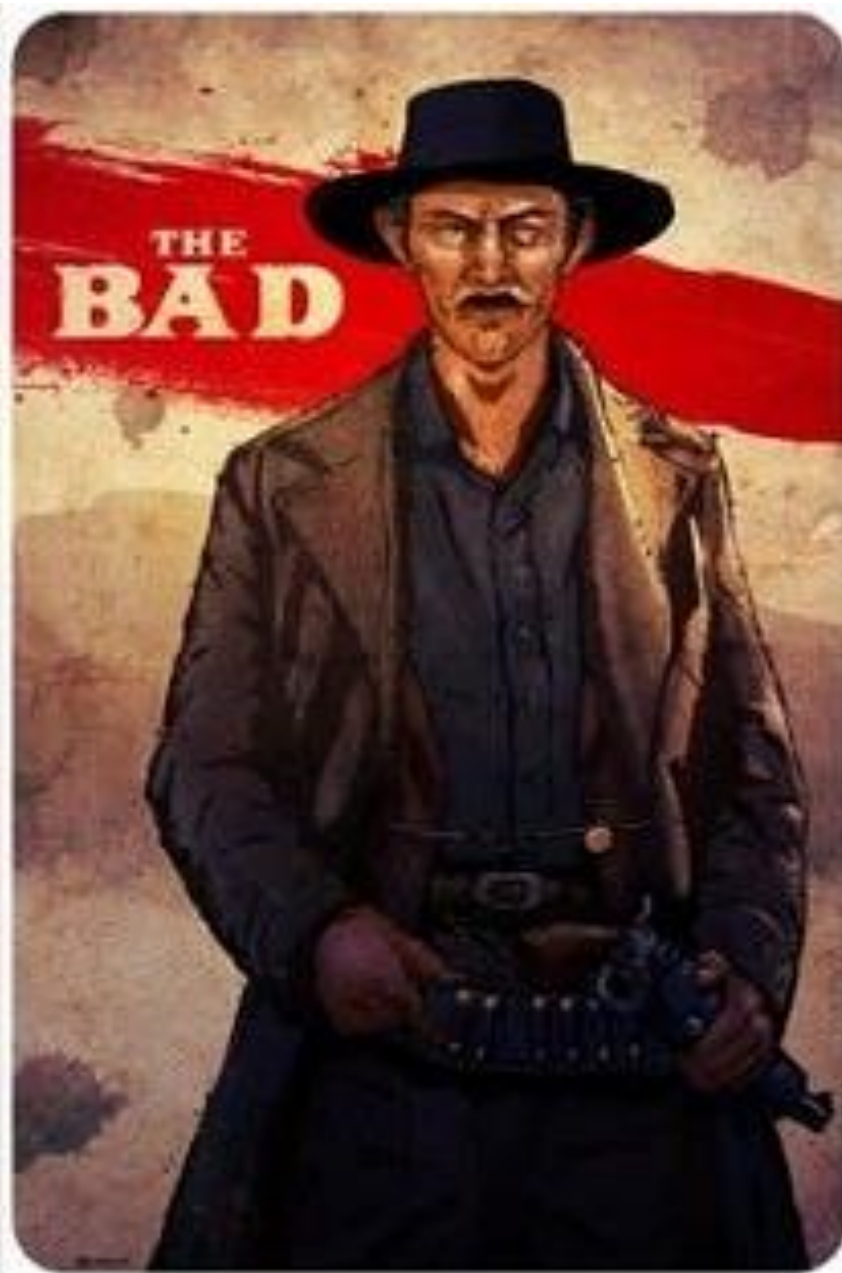
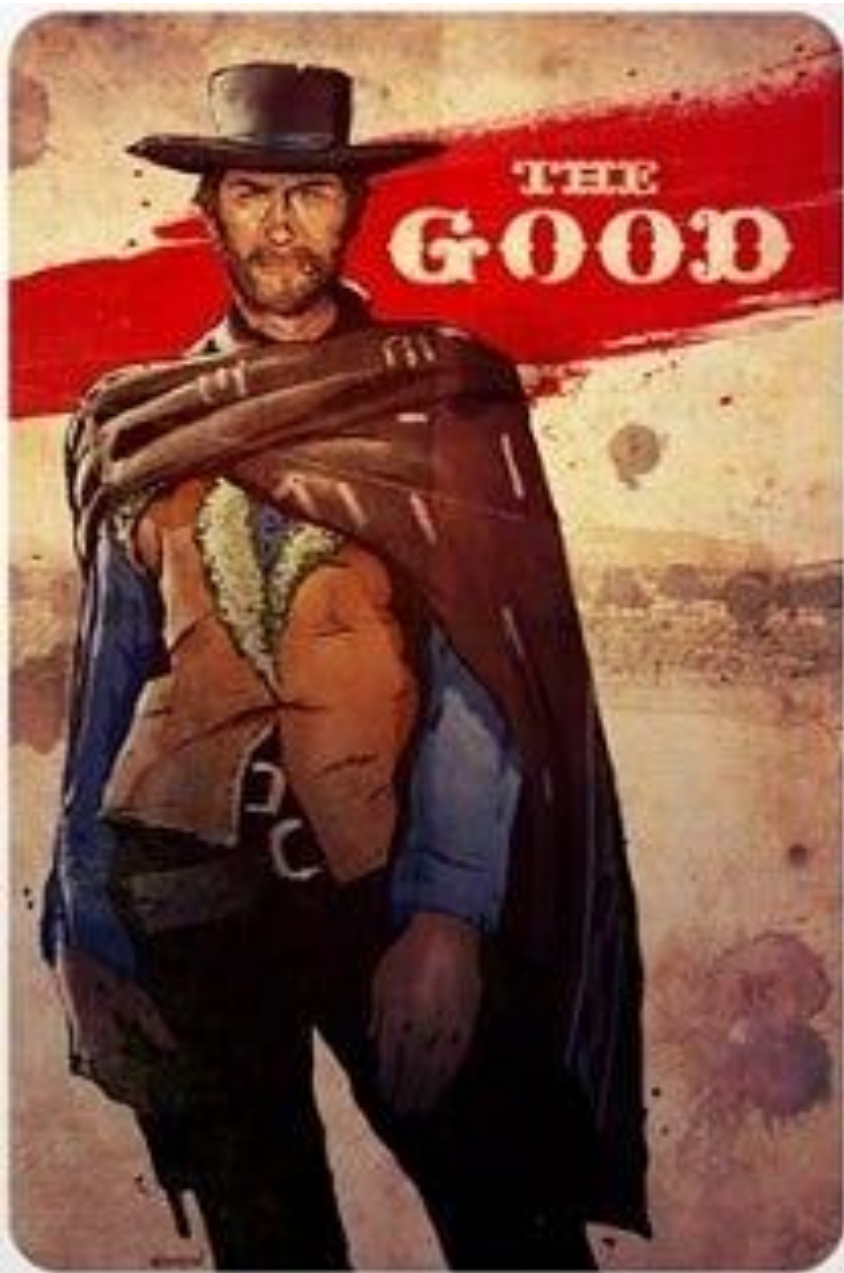


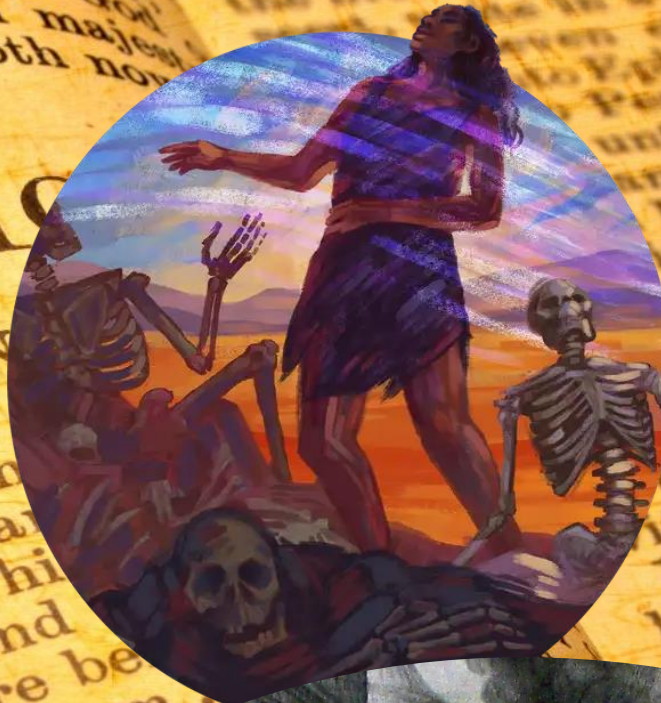
THE GOOD AND THE BAD UGLY





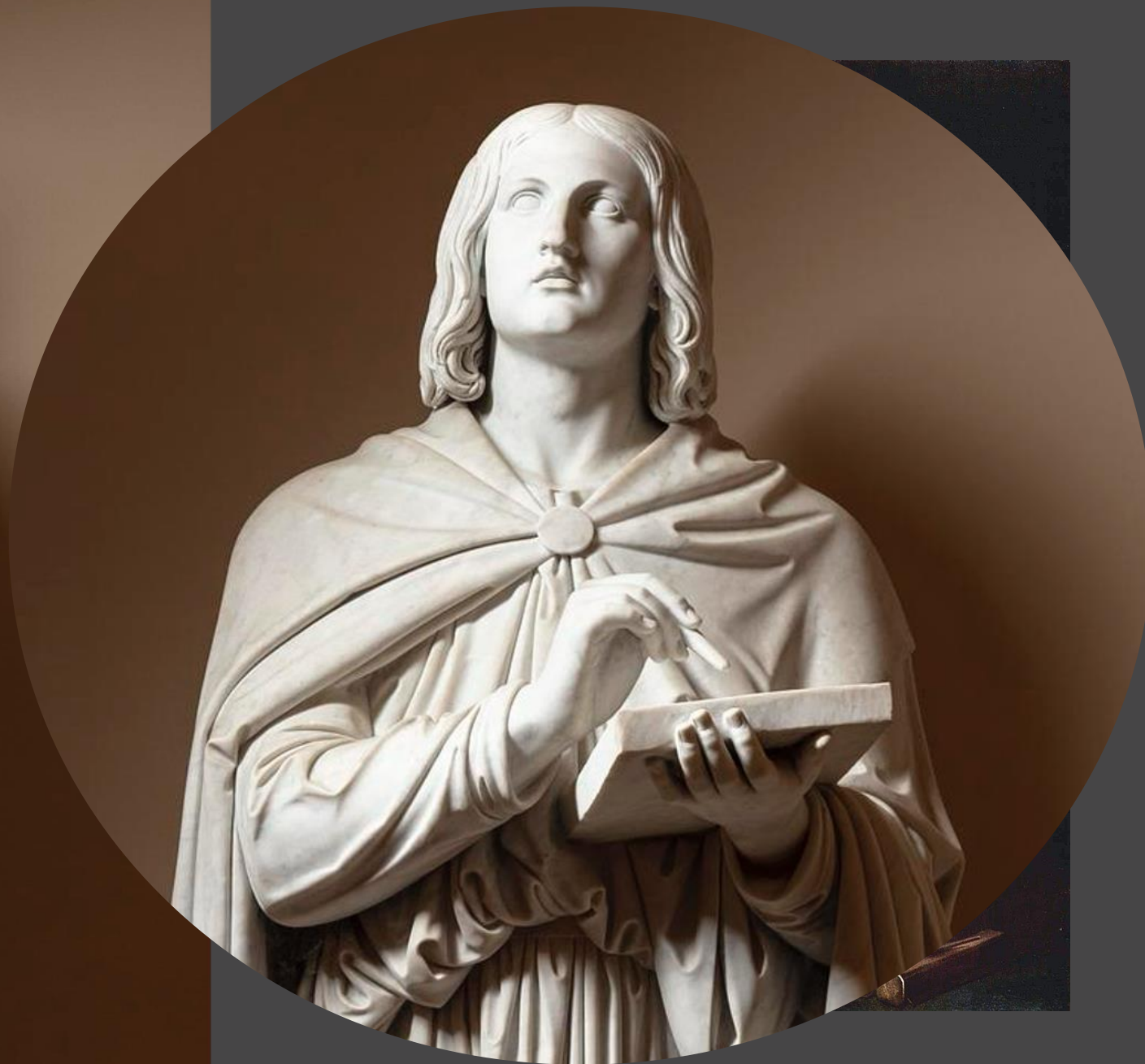






"Blessed is the one who
reads aloud the words of
this prophecy, and
blessed are those who
hear, and who keep what
is written in it, for
the time is near" (Rev.





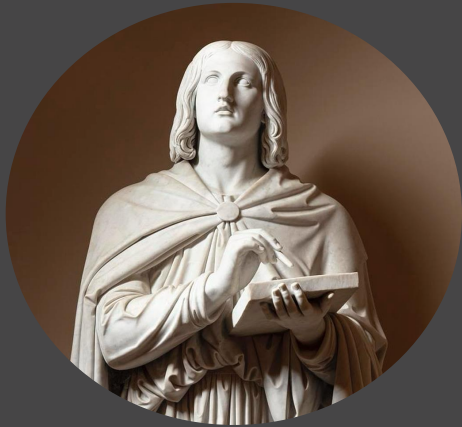
"The revelation of Jesus
Christ, which God gave
him to show to his
servants the things that
must soon take place."

(Rev. 1:1)

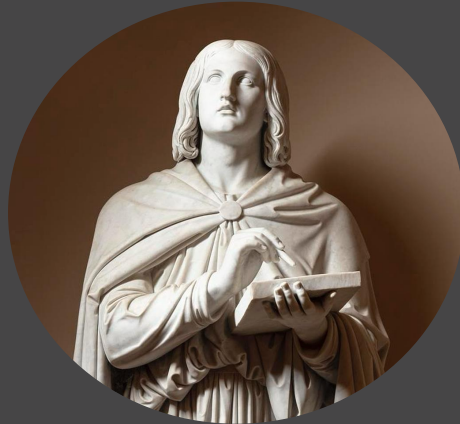
"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, "Write what you see in a book..." (Rev.



Symbolism



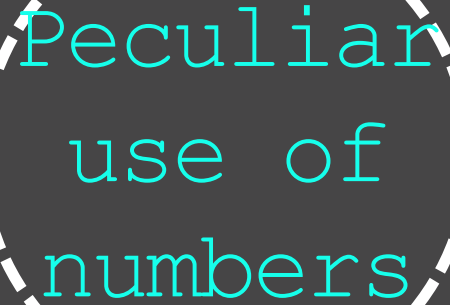
The
Letters



Points for
Home



Symbolism



Peculiar
use of
numbers



Visions
and
Dreams

Traits of apocalyptic literature



Coming
Cataclysm



An Age to
Come



Angels
and
Demons

Not all
images are

Never lose
focus of
the
message!



The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- Man = Adam
- Jerusalem =
- Heavenly city = Jericho = Earthly
- Robbers = Satan et
- Priest = the
- Levite =
- Sacrifices

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- Jerusalem =
- Heavenly city = Earthly
- Robbers = Satan et
- Priest = the
- Levite =
- Sacrifices =
- Good Sam. =
- Jesus

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- Heavenly city = Jericho = Earthly
- Robbers = passions = Satan et
- Priest = the al
- Levite = Law
- Good Sam. = Sacrifices
- Oil = Jesus = Holy Spirit

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- Robbers = Satan et
- Priest = the
- Levite =
- Good Sam. =
- Oil = Holy
- Wine = Blood

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- ~~Passover~~ Priest = the
- ~~Law~~ Levite =
- ~~Sacrifices~~ Good Sam. =
- ~~Jesus~~ Oil = Holy
- ~~Spirit~~ Wine = Blood
- Mule = Jesus' righteousness

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- ~~Jerusalem~~ city
- Sacrifices = Good Sam.
- Oil = Holy
- Spirit = Blood
- Mule = Jesus'
- Inn = Church

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- Jerusalem's city
- Oil = Holy Spirit
- Wine = Blood
- Mule = Jesus'
- Inn = Church
- 2 shillings = Bible and sacraments

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10)

Nope:

- ~~Jerusalem~~ city
Wine = Blood
- Mule = Jesus'
- ~~righteousness~~
Inn = Church
- 2 shillings = Bible and sacraments
- A promise to return

The Good Samaritan (Luke

Nope :

10)

Yep

- ~~Jerusalem~~ city
Wine = Blood

:

Who's my
neighbor?

- Mule = Jesus'

- ~~righteousness~~
Inn = Church

Whoever
you meet
that needs
you!

- 2 shillings =
Bible and

- ~~sacraments~~
A promise to
return

Not all
images are

Never lose
focus of
the
message!





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of
evil.





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

God sees our
tears (7:17;
21:4)





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

Prayer makes a
difference (8:3-4)



A REAL BATTLE.
A REAL ENEMY.
REAL TARGET.

1. WE ARE IN A REAL BATTLE.
2. WE HAVE A REAL ENEMY.
- 3. WE ARE A REAL TARGET.**



Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

Death is
precious in
God's sight





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

Final victory is
assured (15:2)





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

Christ lives
and reigns
forever





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of

Christ
returns to
live with us
(21:22)





Comfort the
church in its
struggle against
the forces of
evil.





Christ wins
over the
dragon

(Satan) and
his minions



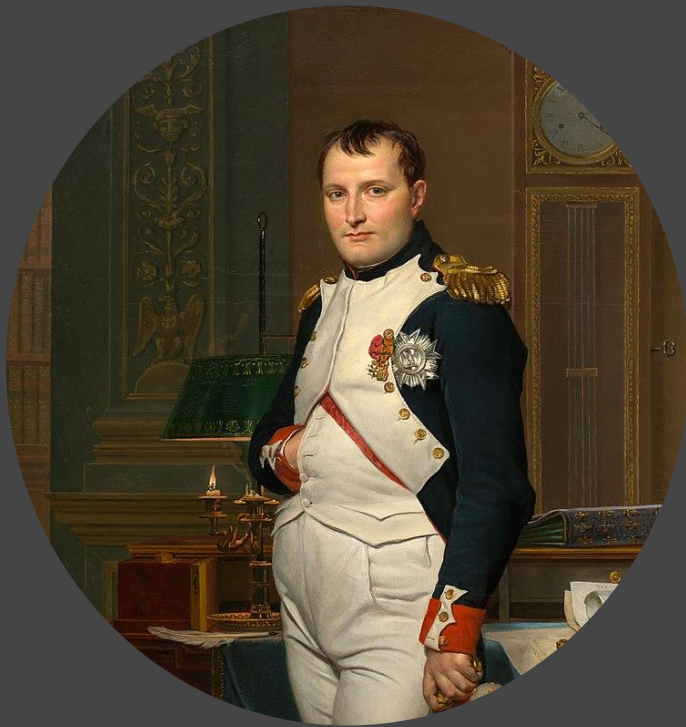
Christ wins
over the
dragon
(Satan) and

The beast
seems
victorious
(11:7-10)

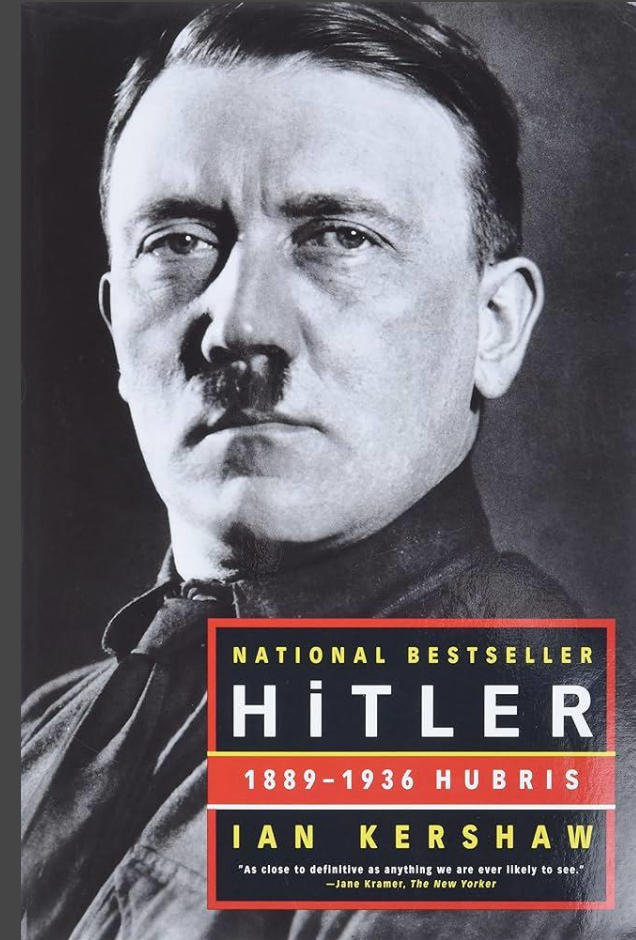
But ISN'T!
(11:11-15)

Some symbols
are
historical
events, but
most are
principles!



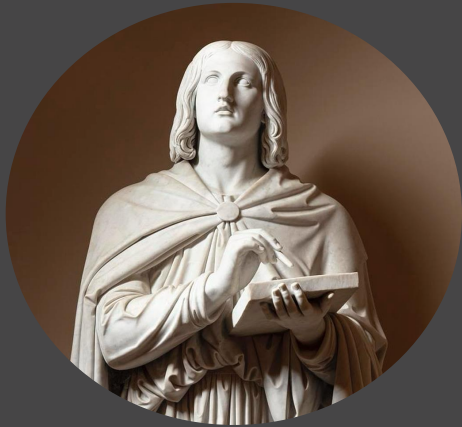


Napoleon





Symbolism



The
Letters

Rev. 1:9

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called **Patmos** on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

Rev. 1:9

Ἐγὼ Ἰωάννης, ὁ ἀδελφὸς ὑμῶν καὶ συγκοινωνὸς ἐν τῇ θλίψει καὶ βασιλείᾳ καὶ ὑπομονῇ ἐν Ἰησοῦ, ἐγενόμην ἐν τῇ νήσῳ τῇ καλουμένῃ **Πάτμῳ** διὰ τὸν λόγον τοῦ θεοῦ καὶ τὴν μαρτυρίαν Ἰησοῦ.

Rev. 1:10

I was in the Spirit on the
Lord's day, and I heard
behind me a loud voice
like a trumpet

Rev. 1:10

ἐγενόμην ἐν πνεύματι ἐν
τῇ κυριακῇ ἡμέρᾳ καὶ
ἤκουσα ὀπίσω μου φωνὴν
μεγάλην ὡς σάλπιγξ

Rev. 1:11

saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Rev. 1:11

λεγούσης· ὁ βλέπεις
γράψον εἰς βιβλίον καὶ
πέμψον ταῖς ἑπτὰ
ἐκκλησίαις, εἰς Ἑφεσον
καὶ εἰς Σμύρναν καὶ εἰς
Πέργαμον καὶ εἰς
Θυάτειρα καὶ εἰς Σάρδεις
καὶ εἰς Φιλαδέλφειαν καὶ
εἰς Λαοδίκειαν.



Rev. 1:12-13

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man...

Rev. 1:12-13

Καὶ ἐπέστρεψα βλέπειν
τὴν φωνὴν ἣτις ἐλάλει
μετ' ἐμοῦ, καὶ ἐπιστρέψας
εἶδον ἑπτὰ λυχνίας
χρυσᾶς καὶ ἐν μέσῳ τῶν
λυχνιῶν ὅμοιον υἱὸν
ἀνθρώπου...

Rev. 1:12-13

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Rev. 1:12-13

Καὶ ἐπέστρεψα βλέπειν τὴν φωνὴν ἣτις ἐλάλει μετ' ἐμοῦ, καὶ ἐπιστρέψας εἶδον ἑπτὰ λυχνίας χρυσαῖς καὶ ἐν μέσῳ τῶν λυχνιῶν ὅμοιον υἱὸν ἀνθρώπου...

Symbolism

Peculiar
use of
numbers

Visions
and
Dreams

Traits of apocalyptic literature

Coming
Cataclysm

An Age to
Come

Angels
and
Demons

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Rev. 1:13-16

In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

Rev. 1:13-16

καὶ ἔχων ἐν τῇ δεξιᾷ χειρὶ
αὐτοῦ ἀστέρας ἑπτὰ καὶ
ἐκ τοῦ στόματος αὐτοῦ
ρόμφαία δίστομος ὀξεῖα
ἐκπορευομένη καὶ ἡ ὄψις
αὐτοῦ ὡς ὁ ἥλιος φαίνει
ἐν τῇ δυνάμει αὐτοῦ.

Rev. 1:17-18

When I saw him, I fell at
his feet as though dead.
But he laid his right hand
on me, saying, “Fear not...

Rev. 1:17-18

Καὶ ὅτε εἶδον αὐτόν,
ἔπεσα πρὸς τοὺς πόδας
αὐτοῦ ὡς νεκρός, καὶ
ἔθηκεν τὴν δεξιὰν
αὐτοῦ ἐπ’ ἐμὲ λέγων· μὴ
φοβοῦ·

Rev. 1:17-18

“Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Rev. 1:17-18

μὴ φοβοῦ· ἐγὼ εἰμι ὁ
πρῶτος καὶ ὁ ἔσχατος
καὶ ὁ ζῶν, καὶ ἐγενόμην
νεκρὸς καὶ ἰδοὺ ζῶν εἰμι
εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας τῶν
αἰώνων καὶ ἔχω τὰς
κλεῖς τοῦ θανάτου καὶ
τοῦ ᾗδου.

Rev. 1:19

Write therefore the things
that you have seen, those
that are and those that are
to take place after this.

Rev. 1:19

γράψον οὖν ἃ εἶδες καὶ
ἃ εἰσὶν καὶ ἃ μέλλει
γενέσθαι μετὰ ταῦτα.

Rev. 1:20

As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Rev. 1:20

τὸ μυστήριον τῶν ἑπτὰ
ἀστέρων οὓς εἶδες ἐπὶ
τῆς δεξιᾶς μου καὶ τὰς
ἑπτὰ λυχνίας τὰς
χρυσᾶς· οἱ ἑπτὰ ἀστέρες
ἄγγελοι τῶν ἑπτὰ
ἐκκλησιῶν εἰσιν καὶ αἱ
λυχνίαι αἱ ἑπτὰ ἑπτὰ
ἐκκλησίαι εἰσίν.

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λυχνίαι αἱ ἑπτὰ ἑπτὰ
ἐκκλησίαι εἰσίν.

Form

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Each letter
has 7 parts

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Salutation/
Address

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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Designation
of Christ

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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Commendation



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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Condemnation



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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Warning/
Threat



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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Exhortation



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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Promise



7

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Salutation/
Address

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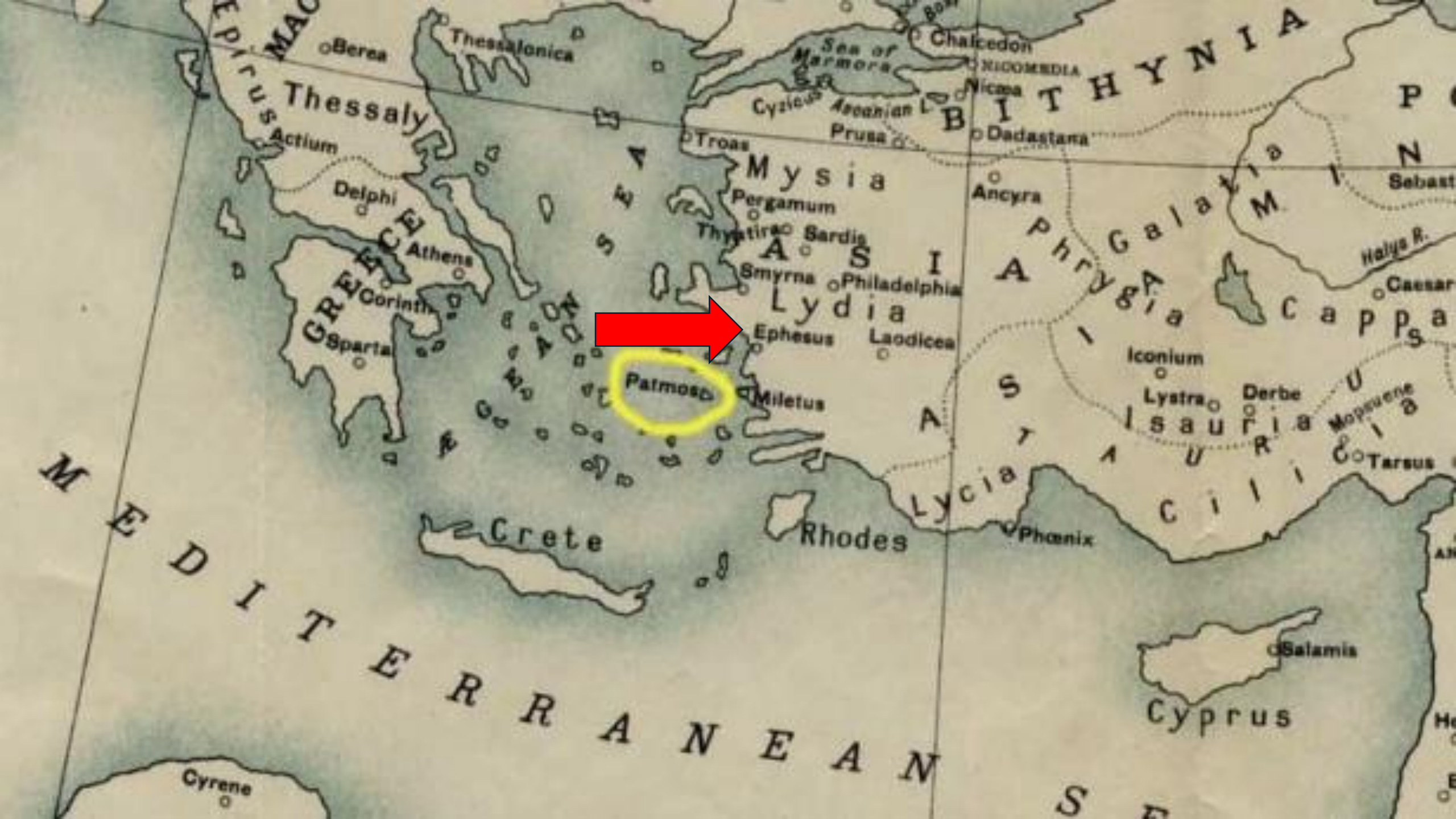
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Rev. 2:1

To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: 'The words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.

Rev. 2:1

Τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν Ἐφέσῳ ἐκκλησίας γράψον· Τάδε λέγει ὁ κρατῶν τοὺς ἑπτὰ ἀστέρας ἐν τῇ δεξιᾷ αὐτοῦ, ὁ περιπατῶν ἐν μέσῳ τῶν ἑπτὰ λυχνιῶν τῶν χρυσῶν·









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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Designation
of Christ

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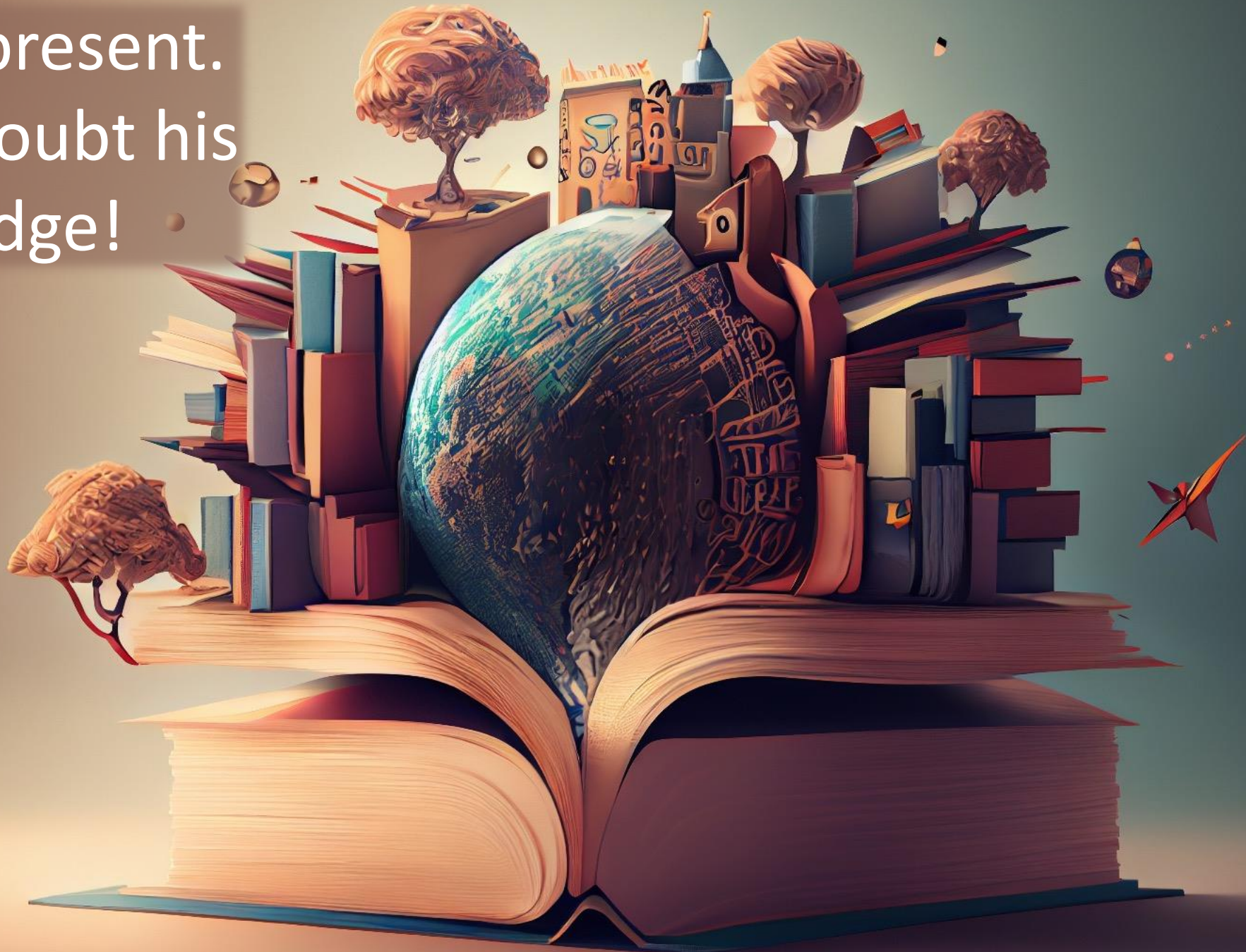
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God is present.
Don't doubt his
knowledge!



Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Commendation



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Rev. 2:2

I know your works, your
toil and your patient
endurance, and how you
cannot bear with those
who are evil, but have
tested those who call
themselves apostles and
are not, and found them
to be false.

Rev. 2:2

οἶδα τὰ ἔργα σου καὶ
τὸν κόπον καὶ τὴν
ὑπομονήν σου καὶ ὅτι
οὐ δύνη βαστάσαι
κακούς, καὶ ἐπείρασας
τοὺς λέγοντας ἑαυτοὺς
ἀποστόλους καὶ οὐκ
εἰσὶν καὶ εὗρες αὐτοὺς
ψευδεῖς,

Rev. 2:3

I know you are enduring
patiently and bearing up
for my name's sake, and
you have not grown
weary.

Rev. 2:3

καὶ ὑπομονὴν ἔχεις καὶ
ἐβάστασας διὰ τὸ ὄνομά
μου καὶ οὐ κεκοπίακες.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Condemnation



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Rev. 2:4

But I have this against you,
that you have abandoned
the love you had at first.

Rev. 2:4

ἀλλ' ἔχω κατὰ σοῦ ὅτι
τὴν ἀγάπην σου τὴν
πρώτην ἀφῆκες.

See 1 Cor. 13

1 Thes. 1:3

Jn 14:23





Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Warning/
Threat



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Rev. 2:5

Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

Rev. 2:5

μνημόνευε οὖν πόθεν
πέπτωκας καὶ
μετανόησον καὶ τὰ
πρῶτα ἔργα ποίησον· εἰ
δὲ μή, ἔρχομαί σοι καὶ
κινήσω τὴν λυχνίαν σου
ἐκ τοῦ τόπου αὐτῆς, ἐὰν
μὴ μετανόησης.

Rev. 2:6

Yet this you have: you hate
the works of the
Nicolaitans, which I also
hate.

Rev. 2:6

ἀλλὰ τοῦτο ἔχεις, ὅτι
μισεῖς τὰ ἔργα τῶν
Νικολαιτῶν ἃ καὶ γὼ
μισῶ.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Exhortation



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Rev. 2:7

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.'

Rev. 2:7

Ὁ ἔχων οὖς ἀκουσάτω
τί τὸ πνεῦμα λέγει ταῖς
ἐκκλησίαις. Τῷ νικῶντι
δώσω αὐτῷ φαγεῖν ἐκ
τοῦ ξύλου τῆς ζωῆς, ὃ
ἐστὶν ἐν τῷ παραδείσῳ
τοῦ θεοῦ.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Promise



7

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Salutation/
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Rev. 2:8

And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write:

‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

Rev. 2:8

Καὶ τῷ ἀγγέλῳ τῆς ἐν
Σμύρνη ἐκκλησίας
γράψον·

Τάδε λέγει ὁ πρῶτος καὶ
ὁ ἔσχατος, ὃς ἐγένετο
νεκρὸς καὶ ἔζησεν





POLYCARP

69–156

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Designation
of Christ

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νεκρὸς καὶ ἔζησεν

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Commendation



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Rev. 2:9

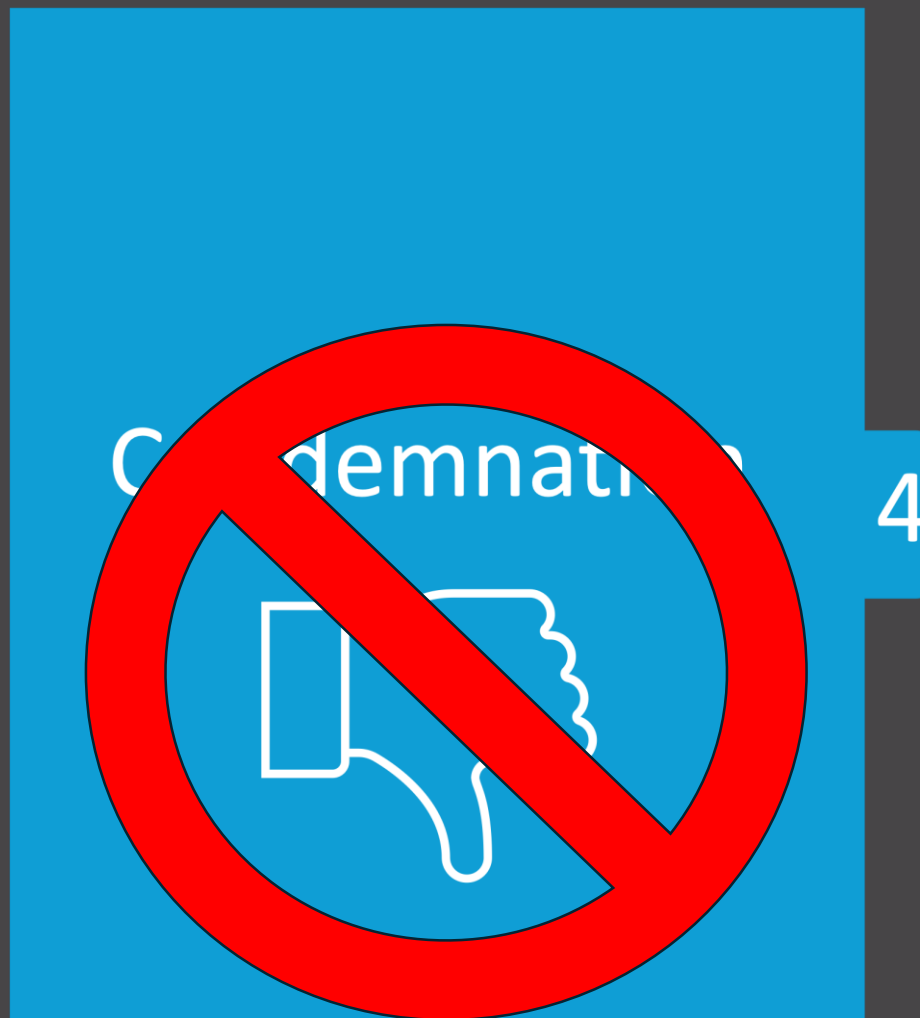
“I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.

Rev. 2:9

οἶδά σου τὴν θλίψιν καὶ τὴν πτωχείαν, ἀλλὰ πλούσιος εἶ, καὶ τὴν βλασφημίαν ἐκ τῶν λεγόντων Ἰουδαίους εἶναι ἑαυτοὺς καὶ οὐκ εἰσὶν ἀλλὰ συναγωγὴ τοῦ σατανᾶ.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts



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Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Warning/
Threat



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Rev. 2:10

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Rev. 2:10

μηδὲν φοβοῦ ἃ μέλλεις
πάσχειν. ἰδοὺ μέλλει
βάλλειν ὁ διάβολος ἐξ
ὑμῶν εἰς φυλακὴν ἵνα
πειρασθῇτε καὶ ἔξετε
θλίψιν ἡμερῶν δέκα.
γίνου πιστὸς ἄχρι
θανάτου, καὶ δώσω σοι
τὸν στέφανον τῆς ζωῆς.

Rev. 2:10

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. **Be faithful unto death**, and I will give you the crown of life.

Rev. 2:10

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POLYCARP

69–156

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Exhortation



6

1

2

3

4

5

7

Rev. 2:11

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'

Rev. 2:11

Ὁ ἔχων οὖς ἀκουσάτω
τί τὸ πνεῦμα λέγει ταῖς
ἐκκλησίαις. Ὁ νικῶν οὐ
μὴ ἀδικηθῇ ἐκ τοῦ
θανάτου τοῦ δευτέρου.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Promise



7

Rev. 2:11

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Rev. 2:11

Ὁ ἔχων οὖς ἀκουσάτω
τί τὸ πνεῦμα λέγει ταῖς
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μὴ ἀδικηθῇ ἐκ τοῦ
θανάτου τοῦ δευτέρου.

Form

Each letter
has 7 parts

Salutation/
Address

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Christ is with us

**“in the midst of the
lampstands one like a son of
man”**

(Rev. 1:13)



Love is the key!

“But I have this
against you, that you
have abandoned the
love you had at first”

(Rev. 2:4)



Semper Fidelis
(Be always faithful)

**“Be faithful unto death, and I
will give you the crown of
life.” (Rev. 2:10)**





Q A Study in Revelation