There are **three ways** to view these letters:

1. From a _____ perspective! These were seven literal churches!

2. From a _____ relevant standpoint! Each of these unique conditions has always existed in the local church!

3. From a _____ vantage point! Each church represents a specific point and time in the church age!

There are two primary thoughts about the angel being addressed:

1. Every congregation has a heavenly being _____ assigned to it.

2. This refers to the _____ human messenger in the congregation, a pastor, elder, teacher, or evangelist.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians contained two main themes:

1. That they might have _____ light!
2. That they might _____ more love!

John echoes Paul's words through Christ's revelation and warning:

1. The furnace may still be hot, but the fire has _____ _____!
2. There is still warmth, but the coals have lost their _____!

I. The faithful _____ of this church!

Jesus recognizes this church for:

1) Continuing to work hard and stand _____! – **V. 1-2**

There was plenty of meaningful activity, and yet an _____!

2) Standing up for the _____! – **V. 2**

By all accounts up to this point, this is a model church _____! – **Hebrews 4:12; Proverbs 16:2**

II. The fatal _____ of this church! – V.5; 1 Corinthians 16:14; 1 Corinthians 13:4–8

If our only acknowledgement is how well we "_____" rather than how we "_____," we are no different than the world!

This truth remains: 1 Corinthians 13 love is a heart _____ for heavenly recognition! – **Matthew 7:21–23**

1) The _____ of their passion was gone!–**V. 4; Psalm 51:12, 13**

Return to your first love and _____ the love and influence of Christ!

2) The _____ of their profession was gone! – **V. 5**

The fruit of a faithful church is _____ lives!

III. The forceful _____ to this church!

Jesus doesn't issue an _____ warning! – **V.5**

Without a _____, Jesus will not walk among us! – **V.1**

In the prophetic picture: Ephesus is referred to as the _____ Church (AD 30-100)!

The early church demonstrated the _____ of the apostles, fervor for missionary advancement, and a fundamental love for doctrinal purity!

The early church also demonstrates how easy it can be to start strong and burn out quick! They lost their fiery passion for Christ and drifted into formal _____.

God _____ recognizes and rewards motivation produced from a desire to honor Him because we love Him! - **1 Corinthians 13:13**