

# ABIDING TRUTH MINISTRIES

**STUDY TO SHOW YOURSELF APPROVED UNTO GOD...**





# REVELATION

CHAPTER TWO

**V#1** – Unto the angel of the **church** of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who **walketh** in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks.

**Church** – *Gk. {ekklesia}*; An assembly of Christians gathered for worship ; the whole body of Christians scattered throughout the earth.

**Walketh** – *Gk. {peripateo}*; to make one's way, progress; to make due use of opportunities

The Roman idol Diana (see [Ancient Empires - Rome](#)) was known to the pagan Greeks (see [Ancient Empires - Greece](#)) as Artemis. Her cult is mentioned in the Bible, where some translations call it "Diana of the Ephesians" while others use "Artemis of the Ephesians."

The idol's most extravagant temple was at [Ephesus](#). It became one of the "seven wonders" of the ancient world. Constructed over the span of 220 years, of pure marble, it measured 345 feet / 105 meters long, by 165 feet / 50 meters wide, and was supported by massive columns each 55 feet / 17 meters high. Inside was a bizarre statue of the "fertility" idol, the original of which was apparently carved from a meteorite that had "fallen from heaven." (Acts 19:35) (Note: It is not uncommon for meteorites to strike the earth. For example, in 1922, a 20-ton piece of space rock entered earth's atmosphere and struck the ground near Blackston, Virginia - but no one made an idol out of it). The cult of Diana, or Artemis, was so powerful and widespread (religiously and economically) in the first century that it caused a very dangerous environment in some places for those who preached the Gospel of God, as the apostle Paul found out during his third missionary **Acts 19:23-41**



**V#2** – I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

Works – *Gk. {ergon}*; business, employment, that which anyone is occupied.

Labour – *Gk. {kopos}*; intense work united with trouble and toil. A beating of the breast with grief and sorrow.

Apostles – *Gk. {apostlos}*; a delegate, an ambassador of the Gospel, messenger, one that is sent.



**V#3** – And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

Borne – *Gk. {bastazo}*; bear, carry take up

Patience – *Gk. {hypomone}*; cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, steadfastness.

Fainted – *Gk. {kamno}*; to tire, sick, grow weary.

**V#4** – Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

Left – *Gk. {aphiemi}*; forsake, lay aside, put away, to disregard, neglect. To leave one by not taking him as a companion.



**V#5** – Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

**V#6** – But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

**Nicolaitanes** – *Gk. {Nikola tes}*; destruction of people

*The word “Nicolaitans” is a transliterated, compound word from the Greek text (nikolaites), derived from nike (“a victor,” “a conqueror”) and laos (“people”). Thus, the word simply means, “to be victorious over the people,” “to conquer the people.”*

*Using the meaning of the name itself after this fashion, the Nicolaitans would have to be identified as individuals (leaders) in the Church who had subjugated the remaining Christians to their self-imposed authority — individuals comprising a ruling, priestly class (the clergy over the laity), something condemned by Scripture in no uncertain terms. Authority within the Church (or a local church) must always be based solely upon service. Those occupying positions of leadership (elders, deacons) must always minister (serve) within this sphere of activity, which is to bear no relationship whatsoever to authority exercised by those in the world (cf. Matthew 20:25-28; 1 Corinthians 16:15, 16). “Nicolaitanism” is simply a corruption of delegated authority within the Church (or a local church), exercising this authority after a forbidden pattern — after the pattern set forth by those in the world.*

**V#7** – He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

**V#8** – And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write, These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive; **Smyrna** – “Myrrh or bitter”

**V#9** - I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

**Tribulation** – *Gk. {thlipsis}*; pressure, persecution, trouble

**V#10** – Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

**Crown** – *Gk. {stephanos}*; a mark of royal exalted rank, wreath given as a prize to victors in public games





# 1

*Saint Hippolytus:*  
torn apart  
by horses



2

***Saint Ignatius Of Antioch:***  
sentenced to be eaten by lions at the Coliseum



# 3

## ***Saint Lawrence:*** **grilled and** **toasted alive**

St. Lawrence was one of seven famous deacons of the early Church. The other six deacons were captured by the Emperor Valerian on August 6, 258, and martyred. The oppression of the Christian Church was very severe, and many Christians fled Rome or died.



4

*Saint Agatha  
of Sicily:*  
had her  
breasts cut off





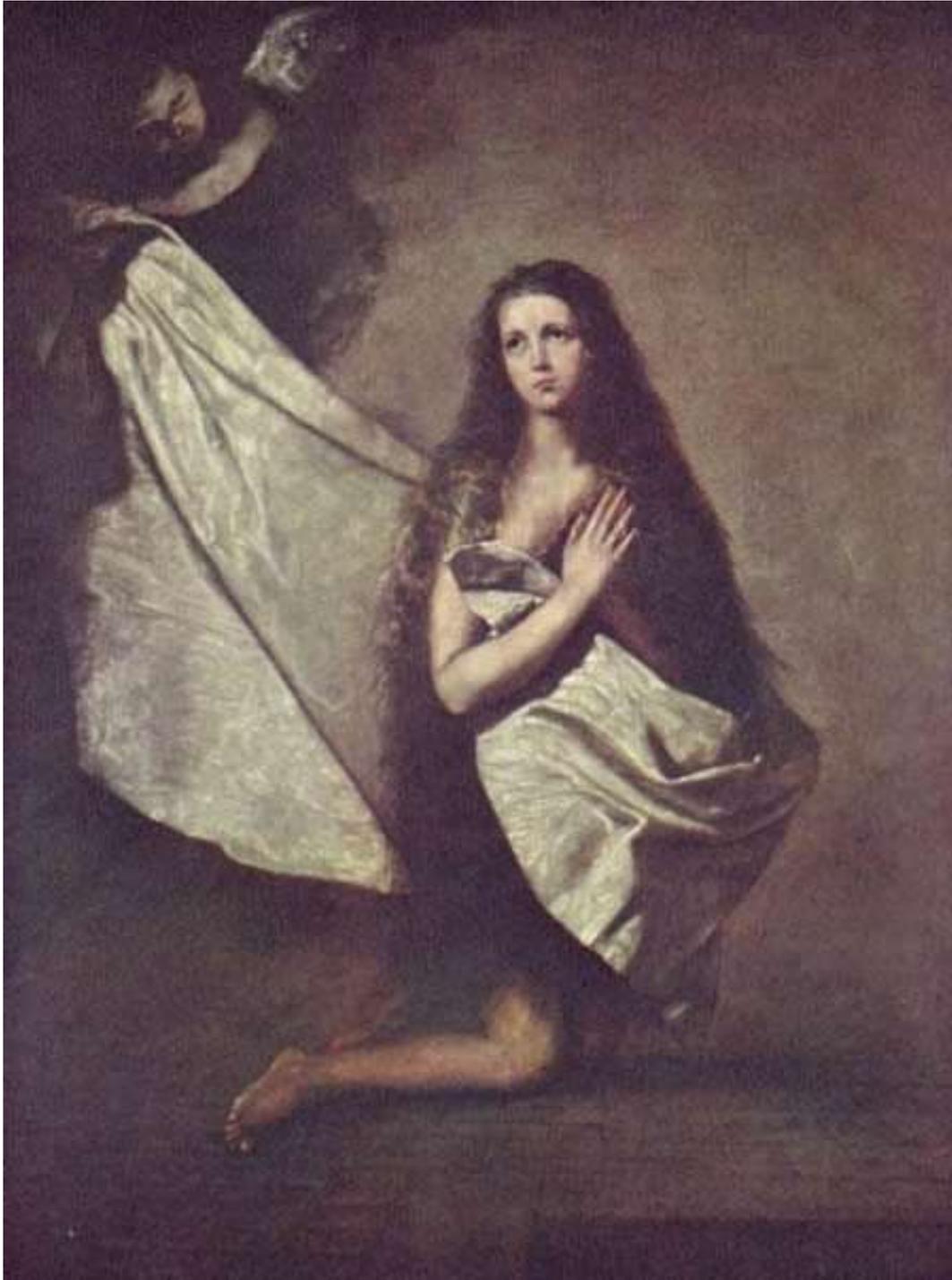
# 5

***Saint Bartholomew:***  
**skinned alive.** After the Resurrection, he is traditionally believed to have preached in India and Armenia. Tradition holds that in Armenia he was flayed alive and then crucified upside down for refusing to worship pagan gods. This fate led to him being adopted as the patron saint of tanners.



# 6

***Pope St. Clement:***  
tied to an anchor  
and thrown into  
the sea



# 7

## ***Saint Agnes of Rome:***

sent to a brothel then condemned to be burned. Also known as Saint Ines (or Santa Ynez), Saint Agnes was a member of the Roman nobility, born c. 291 and raised in a Christian family. She suffered martyrdom at the age of 12 during the reign of the Eastern Roman Emperor Diocletian, on January 21, 304



# 8

## ***Saint Sebastian:***

**martyred twice**

**Because Sebastian was thought to have been killed by the arrows, and yet was not, and then later was killed By the same emperor who ordered him shot, he is sometimes known as the saint who was "martyred twice."**



9

***Saint Catherine***: condemned  
to death on a breaking wheel



# 10

***Saint Symphorosa:***  
thrown to the river,  
then had her 7 kids  
killed



**PERGAMOS**



**V#11** – He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

*(Born once, die twice...Born twice, die once)*

**V#12** – And to the angel of the church of Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

**Pergamos** – “Height or elevation”

**V#13** – I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan’s seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth. **Antipas** – “like the father”

