8 The Pattern of The Seven Letters

1 I KNOW

First, we get the expression '**I know**' because God sees everything.

2 PRAISE and COMMENDATION

We get God's **praise** – His **commendation** of that church, **except** for the **last one**, Laodicea, where there is **no commendation**.

3 CONDEMNATION and REBUKE

Then there is a **condemnation** of the things that God sees wrong in each church, and then a **rebuke** – for all of them **except** Smyrna and Philadelphia.

4 EXALTATION

We then get an **exaltation** – which usually contains an allusion to the Lord's coming and the command to **hear** what the Spirit is saying.

5 A PROMISE for OVERCOMERS

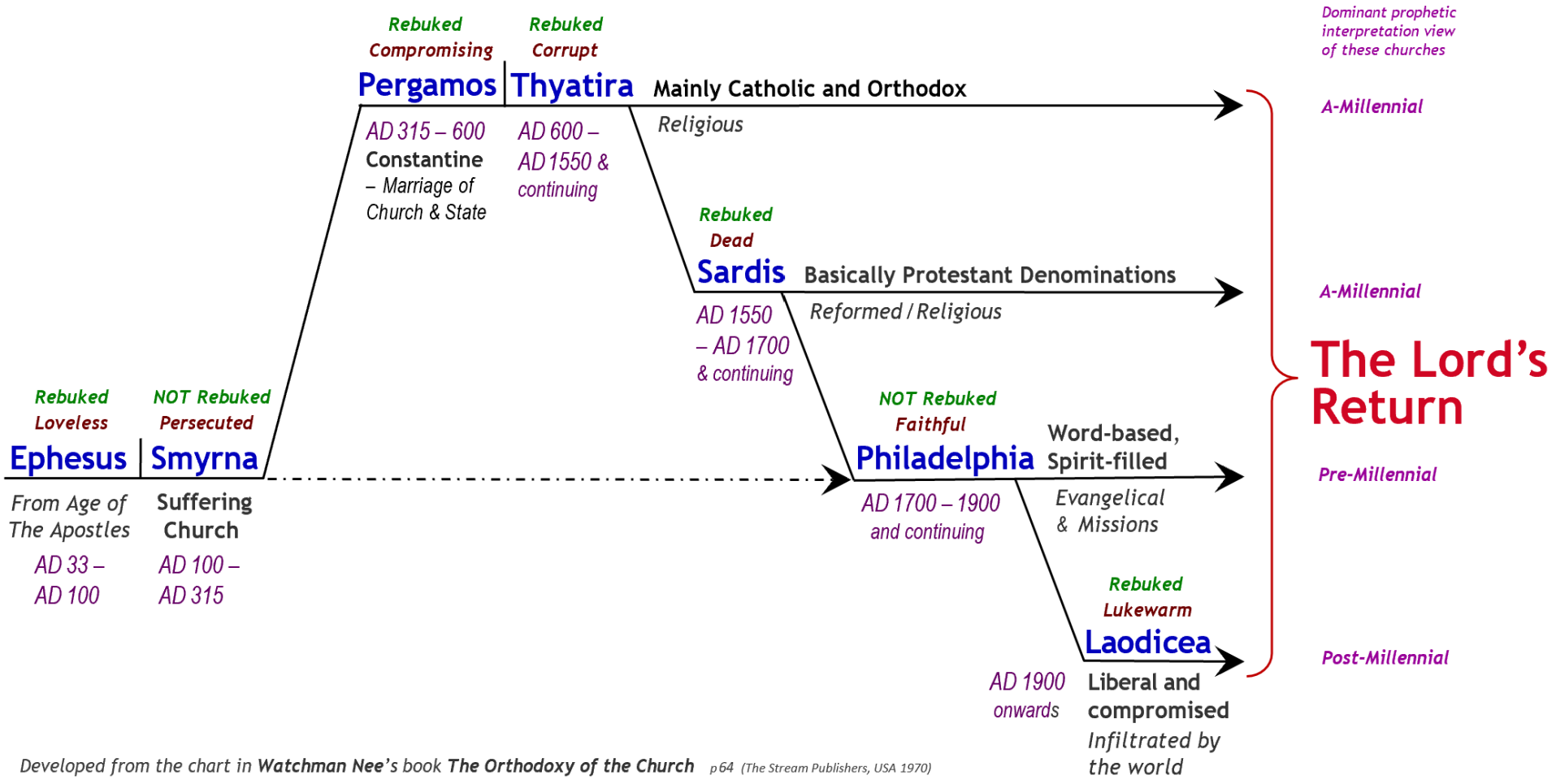
Finally there's a **promise** to those who **overcome** – *i.e.* all **true** believers.

9 The Seven Churches

1 EPHESUS	The Loveless *or* Backslidden Church		**Rebuked**
2 SMYRNA	The Persecuted *or* Suffering Church		**Not Rebuked**
3 PERGAMOS	The Compromising Church		**Rebuked**
4 THYATIRA	The Corrupt Church		**Rebuked**
5 SARDIS	The Dead Church		**Rebuked**
6 PHILADELPHIA	The Faithful Church		**Not Rebuked**
7 LAODICEA	The Lukewarm Church	*No Commendation*	**Rebuked**

The Seven Churches of Revelation 2 & 3

Their interpretation over 2,000 years



*Developed from the chart in **Watchman Nee**'s book **The Orthodoxy of the Church** p64 (The Stream Publishers, USA 1970)*
*With additional material, including from **Brian Gemmell**'s **Overview of Revelation** studies 2014*

4 The Seven Churches of Revelation 2 and 3



11 The Stephane Crown







A victor's laurel or the
'Stephanus Crown of Life'

10b Be faithful until death, and I will give you **the crown of life**.
Revelation 2:10

12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive **the crown of life** which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.
James 1:12