

The Letter to the Church at Ephesus, part 4
Revelation 2:1-7

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| A. The Head of the church in Ephesus | Rev. 2:1-2a |
| B. His commendation to the church at Ephesus | Rev. 2:2-3, 6 |
| C. His condemnation of the church at Ephesus | Rev. 2:4 |

1. Loss of first love is backsliding.

2. Signs of backsliding

- Loss of thirst and hunger for the Lord Jesus
- Loss of appetite for the Word of God
- Loss of spiritual enjoyment of the Lord and His truth
- Loss of relational prayer to encounter the Lord
- Loss of love for other Christians
- Loss of burden for the unsaved

3. What are the causes of abandonment of first love?

Revelation 2:4

a) Spiritual neglect

Proverbs 24:30-32; Proverbs 19:24

- Word: Allowance of distractions Luke 10:38-42
Matthew 4:4; Job 23:12; Psalm 119:103; 1 Peter 2:2
- Prayer: Lack of self-discipline Col. 4:12-13
- Service: Self-centered priorities Phil. 2:19-22
- Obedience: Lack of intentionality Matt. 7:24-27

b) Hardened toward sin

Matthew 24:12

c) Worldliness

1 John 2:15-17; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; 2 Tim. 4:9-11; James 4:4