

Revelation #7

Structure of the Seven Letters (Revelation 2-3)

1. Each letter begins:

2:1

2:8

2:12

2:18

3:1

3:7

3:14

Does this formula vary for any of the seven cities?

This formula has been called the adscriptio (Latin: *ad scribo* = “to write to”).

2. Each city is addressed with the same imperative. What is it?

3. The speaker then identifies himself. How does he do so to each church?

2:1

Where else does this identification occur?

2:8

Where else does this identification occur?

2:12

Where else does this identification occur?

2:18

Where else does this identification occur?

3:1

Where else does this identification occur?

3:7

Where else does this identification occur?

3:14

Where else does this identification occur?

4. What is the next element common to all seven letters?

2:2

2:9

2:13

2:19

3:1

3:8

3:15

What does this suggest about the speaker? This “knowledge” suggests the speaker knows the
? of each church.

5. The central section of each letter is the most extensive. It details ?

6. Each letter concludes with an appeal.

2:7

2:11

2:17

2:29

3:6

3:13

3:22

7. A distinct encouragement is also included at the end of each letter. It is a ?

2:7

2:11

2:17

2:26

3:5

3:12

3:21

The same Greek participle (verbal noun) is used in each of these. It comes from the Greek verb **nika,w** (*nikaō*) which is related to the Greek word **ni,kh** (*nikē*) which means ? (cf. 1 John 5:4)