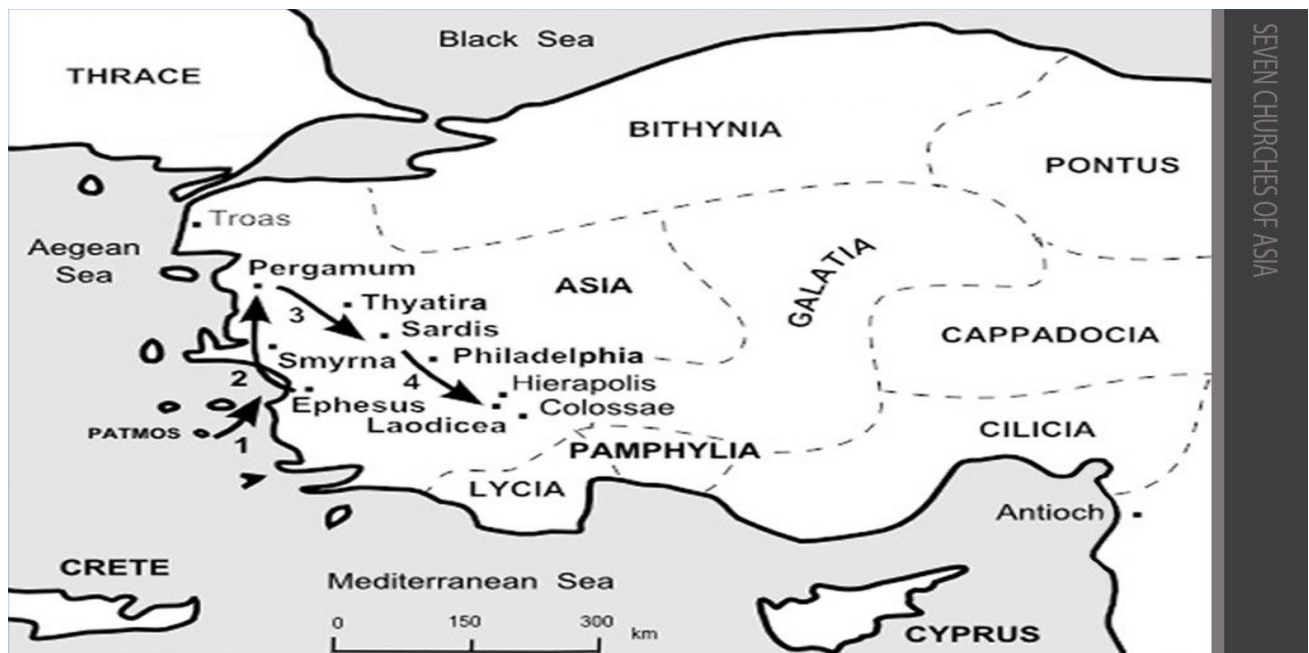


# The Early Church Lost Love – Ephesus Revelation 2:1-7

Read Rev 2:1-7 What commendations does God have for the Church in Ephesus? What condemnations does He have? What specific instructions does He give the Church in Ephesus? What is promised to the faithful who overcome?

Read Acts 19:1-10 What was the first group of people Paul taught when he arrived in Ephesus? Why do you think Paul chose to teach them? What did Paul do for them? Which group of people did Paul seek out next? How long did he preach to that group? What was the third group of people Paul taught in Ephesus? How long did he preach in that location? How big of an impact did Paul's preaching and evangelism have?



Locate Ephesus on the map of Asia Minor above. Why would this city have been important even if it hadn't been the world center for the worship of Artemis and Emperor Domitian? Imagine what it must have been like to live as a Christian in Ephesus in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century. What did it mean for Christians in Ephesus to choose who – God, Artemis, or the Roman Emperor – they would love and serve as Lord of their lives?

What characterized the Ephesian believers when Paul wrote to them, probably around 54 AD? (Eph. 1:15-16) What is one of the most significant ways that we as Christians today can demonstrate our love for God? (John 13:34-35)

Who, in your world, do you hope will experience the goodness of God's love as demonstrated by Christians, and what might your role be in demonstrating such love?