(A Wake Up Call to the Church)

Throughout Scripture especially in Revelation Jesus repeatedly opens His messages to the churches with the chilling phrase:

"I know your deeds."

Let's look at a few examples:

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Revelation 2:2 (NIV) "I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance..."
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Revelation 2:19 (NIV) "I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance..."

Revelation 3:1 (NIV) "I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead."

Revelation 3:8 (NIV) "I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut..."

Why Does Jesus Begin This Way?

Jesus emphasizes His awareness of our actions to remind us that **He** sees all things nothing is hidden from Him.

As Hebrews 4:13 (NIV) says:

"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."

Many people live as though God is unaware of their private lives. But Scripture is clear: He sees the **public and the private**, the **sincere and the deceptive**, the **holy and the sinful**.

To Pastors and Church Leaders

You are called to shepherd the flock of God with integrity (1 Peter 5:2-3), yet some are living double lives preaching salvation on Sunday but engaging in immorality in secret.

"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the Lord. Jeremiah 23:1 (NIV) "Not many of you should become teachers... because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly." James 3:1 (NIV)

If you are involved in sin sexual immorality, deceit, or manipulation **repent immediately.** God is not mocked (Galatians 6:7). **Jesus knows your deeds.**

To Believers Living a Double Life

You may say you're saved, baptized, a worship leader, a church elder... but what happens in secret?

- You watch pornography.
- You engage in fornication.
- You live in habitual sin yet lift up holy hands in worship.

Jesus warned about hypocritical worship:

"'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.'" Matthew 15:8 (NIV)

"Be sure that your sin will find you out." Numbers 32:23 (NIV)

You can fool your pastor, your friends, even your family but you cannot fool the Lord.

He knows your deeds.

To Spouses Living in Hidden Sin

Marriage is a covenant before God. Adultery, secrecy, and lies **break not just trust but violate God's law**.

"Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral." Hebrews 13:4 (NIV)

You may have hidden children, secret abortions, or affairs thinking no one knows. But the Lord sees.

"The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good." Proverbs 15:3 (NIV)

To Hidden Idolaters Among the Saints

Yes even in the Church, there are some who secretly practice witchcraft, consult spirits, or use charms for "protection" or "prosperity." These practices are **abominations** before God. "Let no one be found among you... who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft..." Deuteronomy 18:10-12 (NIV)

These individuals may shout "Amen!" and appear holy, but they are spiritually compromised.

Jesus knows their deeds.

Wake Up, Church!

Jesus' warning to the church in Sardis is particularly relevant:

Revelation 3:1-3 (NIV)

"I know your deeds; you have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.

Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die...

But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you."

This is not the time to play church. This is the time to repent and live in holiness.

Repent, While There Is Time

There is still grace available **but grace is not a license to sin** (Romans 6:1-2).

True repentance involves confession and turning away from sin.

"Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy." Proverbs 28:13 (NIV)

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out..." Acts 3:19 (NIV)

Confess your sins to God. Talk to your spiritual leaders. Ask for prayer and accountability.

The Lord is willing to forgive, restore, and empower you to walk in

righteousness.

The Lukewarm Will Be Rejected

Jesus despises spiritual complacency.

Revelation 3:15-16 (NIV) "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm neither hot nor cold I am about to spit you out of my mouth."

Now is the time to fully surrender to Jesus. Half-hearted faith will not survive the coming judgment.

Judgment Is Coming

God will judge the secrets of every heart.

"This will take place on the day when God judges people's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares." Romans 2:16 (NIV)

"He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of the heart." 1 Corinthians 4:5 (NIV)

Friend, this is the final hour. **Jesus is coming soon** not as a Savior, but as a Judge.

Prepare your heart. Repent. Live in the light.

May the Lord Bless You

"Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts." Hebrews 3:15 (NIV)

Now is the day of salvation. Don't delay.

Shalom. Jesus is coming soon.

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