

A golden alarm clock is the central focus, set against a vibrant sunrise background with a field of golden flowers. The clock's face is visible, showing numbers from 1 to 12. The words "WAKE UP" are written in large, bold, white letters with a slight shadow, positioned across the middle of the clock. The overall scene is bathed in warm, golden light, with a bright sunburst effect on the right side. Swirling golden lines and lens flares add a sense of motion and energy to the composition.

WAKE UP

Challenge to the Seven Churches

- **Laodicea** - move from Luke warmness to living wholeheartedly, passionately, enthusiastically and zealously.
- **Philadelphia** - take hold of opportunity.
- **Sardis** - spiritual reality.
- **Thyatira** - not to compromise with immorality.
- **Pergamum** - hold onto the Gospel in the face of idolatry.
- **Smyrna** - persevere in the face of extreme suffering.
- **Ephesus** - deal with the issue of lost love.



Revelation 3: 1 – 6

To the Church in Sardis

1 “And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: ‘the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. “ ‘I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. 2 Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. 3 Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. 4 Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. 5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life.

I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. 6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’





Interesting facts about Sardis

- The city of Sardis was built around 500 B.C.
- It was located on a narrow plateau 1500ft above sea level
- A **mountainous region** which formed a natural citadel





Interesting facts about Sardis

- About 35 miles southeast of Thyatira
- It was built as a **fortress city** under a fortified spur of Mount Timulus in the Hermes valley



Interesting facts about Sardis

- It was the capital of the Lydian Empire and was still an important city even in the Roman empire





Interesting facts about Sardis

- The king of Sardis, **Croesus** had legendary wealth (as rich as Croesus)
- Sardis had become famous for their abilities in arts and crafts



Interesting facts about Sardis

- They made lavish use of the local brightly coloured and semi precious stones such as **fire opal** and banded agate
- The Sardians also had a process in which they used the blue chalcedony (translucent variety of quartz) that they mined nearby
- Their jewellery was renown throughtout the empire
- Sardis was the first city to mint coinage using the precious metals, gold and silver





Gold Mines

Monetary capital





Interesting facts about Sardis

- The nearby mountains were dotted with gold mines thus making the city the monetary capital of the region
- The Romans built a **temple for the goddess Artemis** and a large bath gymnasium complex



Interesting facts about Sardis

- The great earthquake of 17 AD ruined Sardis totally, and even though the emperor had it rebuilt, it never again rose to its former wealth and glory.
- The city was impregnable, and featured in epic **battle of surprise attacks** and captures in 549 BC, by the Medo-Persians and in 214 BC by the Romans.



Interesting facts about the church Sardis

- Persecution was unknown in Sardis.
- They were devoid of fellowship with Christ - He stands outside the church.
- For all its reputation, the church at Sardis was dying on its feet.
- Sardis, simply, was a dead church.
- There is no mention in this letter of pagan opposition, fanatical persecution nor heretical excess; it suffered from spiritual 'dry rot' and deadness from within.
- It was not the opposition this church had to overcome but apathy, indifference and self-satisfaction.



Interesting facts about the church Sardis

- Paganism was not anything to be contended with.
- Sardis was known for its extremely bad morals and debauchery, where licentiousness marked both the pagans and the Christians.
- This letter indicates that the church was affected by the same spirit as the city, resting on past reputation, without present achievement and had failed twice from the past in being vigilant and watchful.
- and deadness from within.
- According to this letter, only 'a few' had not 'soiled their garments'.



Lessons Learned

- Jesus is always speaking, ARE WE LISTENING?
- Religion WITHOUT RELATIONSHIP
- Christianity without CONVICTION
- WAKE UP
- STRENGTHEN WHAT REMAINS and is about to die
- Go back to your FIRST commitment and LOVE
- REMEMBER what you received and heard
- Keep it, don't let our apathy, lukewarmness and hypocrisy steal it
- REPENTANCE, a change of heart and a change of direction



Jesus' Encouragement

to be applied in the market place

- GET SERIOUS with God
- TAKE STOCK of your life
- WAKE UP!
- INTIMACY cultivates revival
- Develop a PERSISTENT FAITH
- LIVE ZEALOUSLY for Christ.
- Live for all that I CREATED YOU FOR.



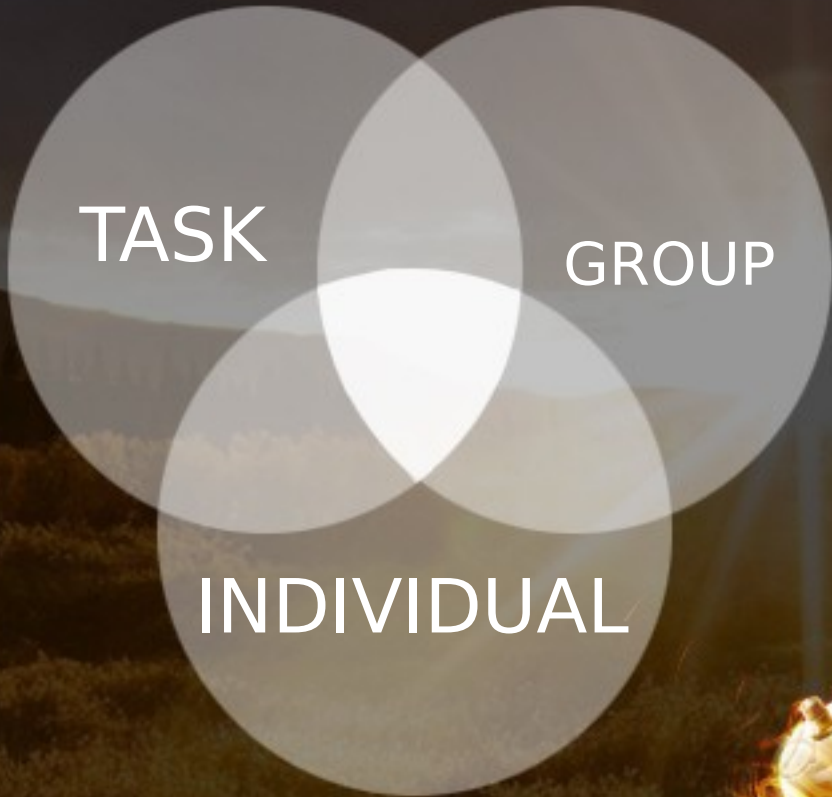
TASK

GROUP

INDIVIDUAL

WAKE UP





WAKE UP

FAMILY

CHURCH

BUSINESS

WAKE UP



FAMILY

CHURCH

BUSINESS

WAKE UP



**We have only got ONE LIFE to
live.**

Colossians 3:17

*And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks through Him to God the Father*

Revelation 3:6

Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.

