

The background of the image is a dark blue grid with faint, light-colored architectural blueprints. The blueprints include various lines, rectangles, and circles, representing a building plan. Some text from the blueprints is visible, such as 'RAIL' at the top left, 'ION' on the left side, and '8'-0"' in several places. A cross is drawn in the bottom right corner. The overall theme is architectural and structural.

GOD'S

Plan for His
CHURCH

REVELATION 2-3

Ephesians 3:8-12

“...Grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to His eternal purpose that He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In Him and through faith in Him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.”

God's PLAN is for the
church to proclaim the
GOSPEL to all people
(as well as all the angels!).

**Are all churches
doing their job?**

**(Roughly 7,500 churches close their
doors every year—150/week)**

modern day TURKEY



Pergamos



Thyatira



Smyrna



Sardis



Philadelphia



Ephesus



Laodicea

Isle of
Patmos

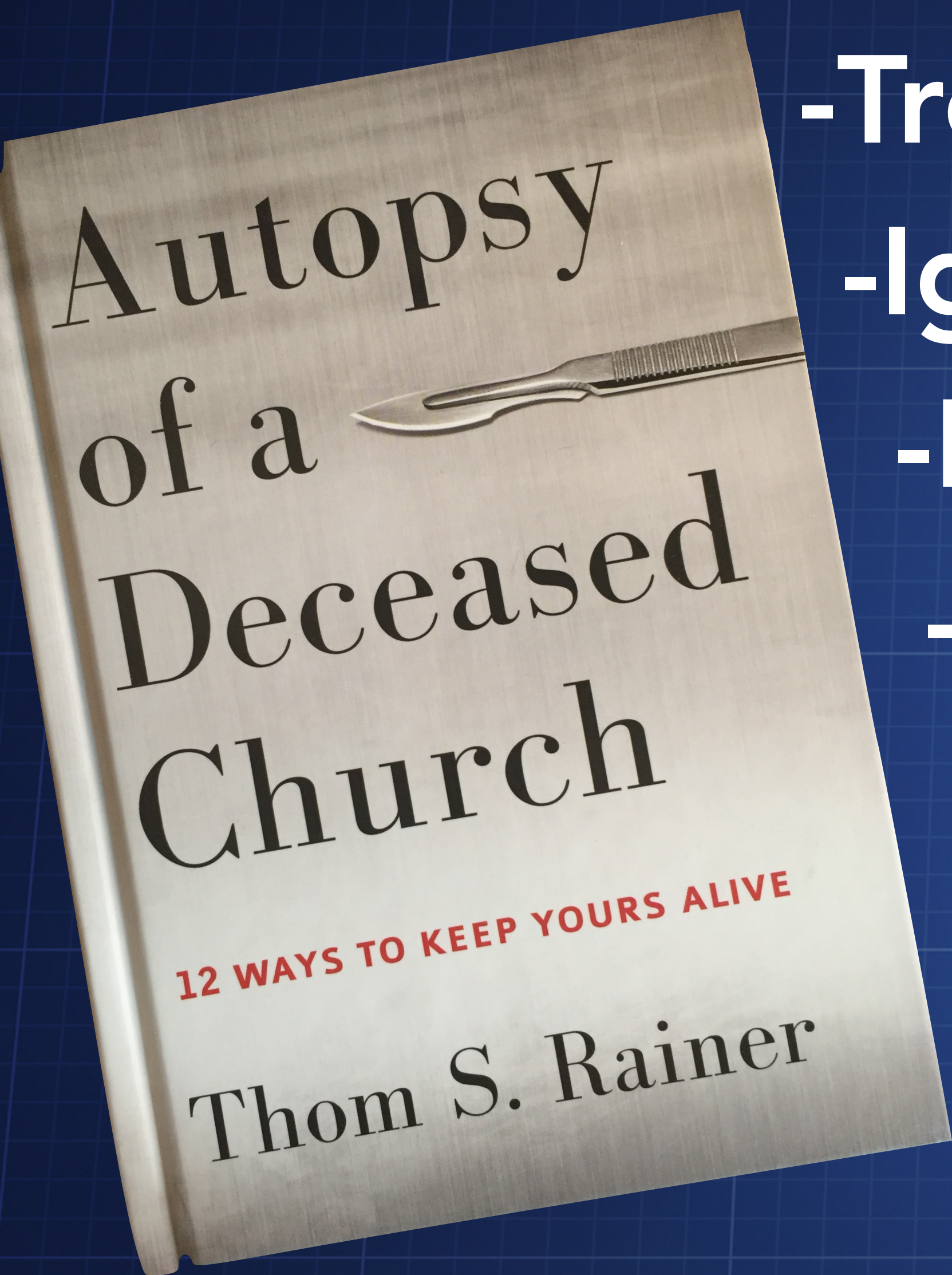


- Ephesus: You have lost your 1st love
- Smyrna: Don't be afraid to suffer
- Pergamum: Beware of compromise
- Thyatira: Stop tolerating Jezebel
- Sardis: You're dead & don't know it

**THE
SEVEN
CHURCHES
OF
REVELATION**

Autopsy of a **DEAD CHURCH**

Revelation 3:1-6



- Treating the past as the hero
- Ignoring surrounding community
- Moving focus of budget inward
- Personal agendas & preference
- Tenure of pastors decreasing
- No clear purpose or vision
- The "Great Omission"
- Obsessing over facilities
- No regular, corporate prayer

**Spiritual apathy and
compromise leads to the
death of a church.**

**But Christ is faithful to
graciously call those who will
hear back to faithfulness & life.**

1. Christ is Characterized by His Knowledge and Care. (v. 1)

The church in Sardis probably viewed themselves as off the radar! In truth, they were in the Center of His Attention.

2. Christ Confronts those who
have a Reputation but are
Dead. (v. 1)

"A Morgue with a Steeple."

*"Everything in the show window
but nothing in stock."*

3. Christ Corrects those who are Dying but not yet Dead. (vv. 2-3)

"Be Alert!"

"Strengthen what Remains"

"Remember what you have Heard"

"Hold on to what you Have"

"Repent"

4. Christ Commends those who
are Holy & Worthy of His
Praise. (v. 4)

*-Hope for the church in Sardis
boiled down to a Handful of
focused & obedient people.*

5. Christ Confesses those who
have His Righteousness & are
Written in the Book of Life.

(vv. 5-6)

“Welcome to the Wedding!”

**Our focus must ALWAYS be
the Word of God (Jesus!),
the Gospel, and a Passion
to reach lost souls.**