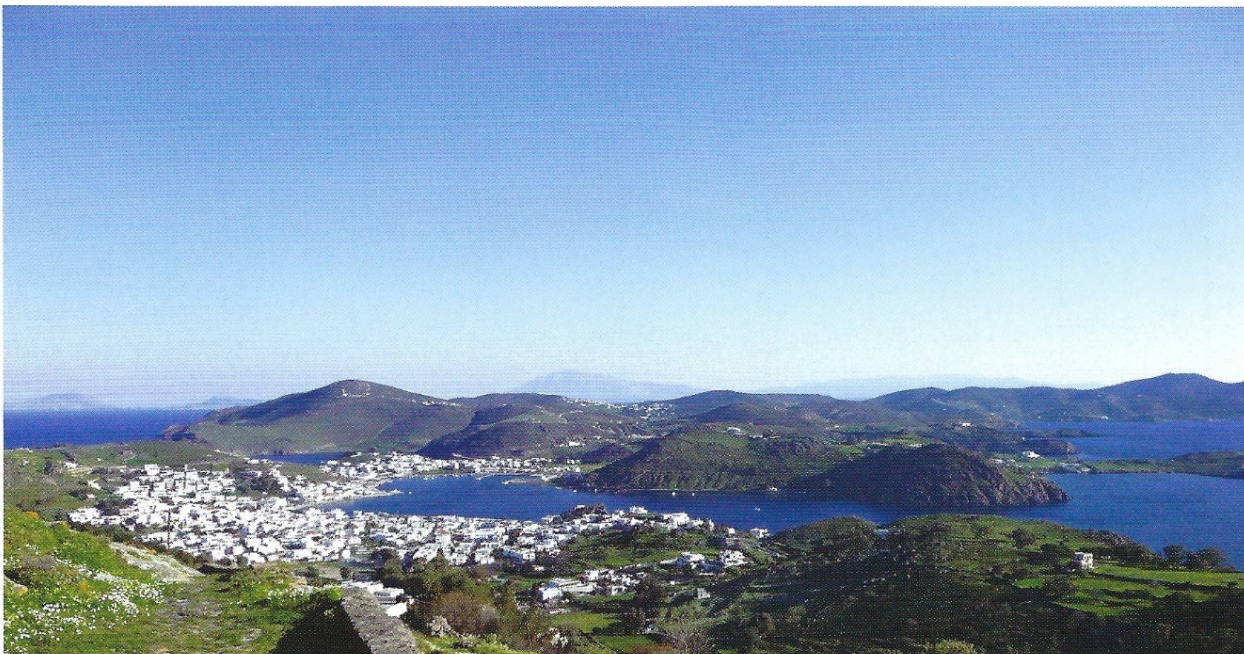


Patmos

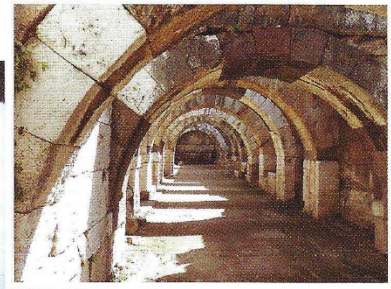


Left

The island of Patmos that John was imprisoned on and where he was given the Book of Revelation.

Smyrna

Smyrna, known today as Izmir, was the second city to be sent a message in the revelation to John (Revelation 2:8). It was one of the few cities of antiquity to be laid out to a preconceived plan.



Above

Under the Agora at Smyrna.

Left

The Agora at Smyrna where the trade in myrrh and other goods was undertaken. Polycarp was martyred on the distant hill between the first two columns.



Sardis

Ruins of the temple of Artemis at Sardis. This temple would have been familiar to Paul. A red brick Christian church c. fourth century A.D. was built inside the temple of Artemis.

Philadelphia

Philadelphia is located in a region where there are many earthquakes and there is little left of the city from the time of John.



Laodicea



Right

The Laodicea main street (Cardo)

Above

Laodicea water pipes

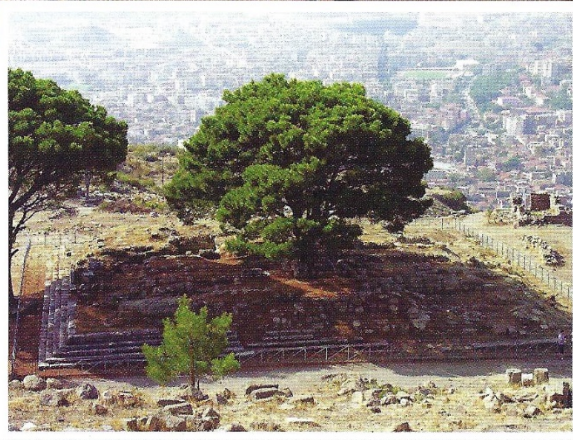


Pergamum



Above

Now located in the Museum in Berlin, the impressive Great Altar dedicated to Zeus. Pergamum was probably John's reference to "where Satan has his throne."



Above

The location of Great Altar at Pergamum.

Thyatira

Located halfway between Pergamum and Sardis, Thyatira was one of many Macedonian colonies established in Asia Minor during the conquests of Alexander the Great.

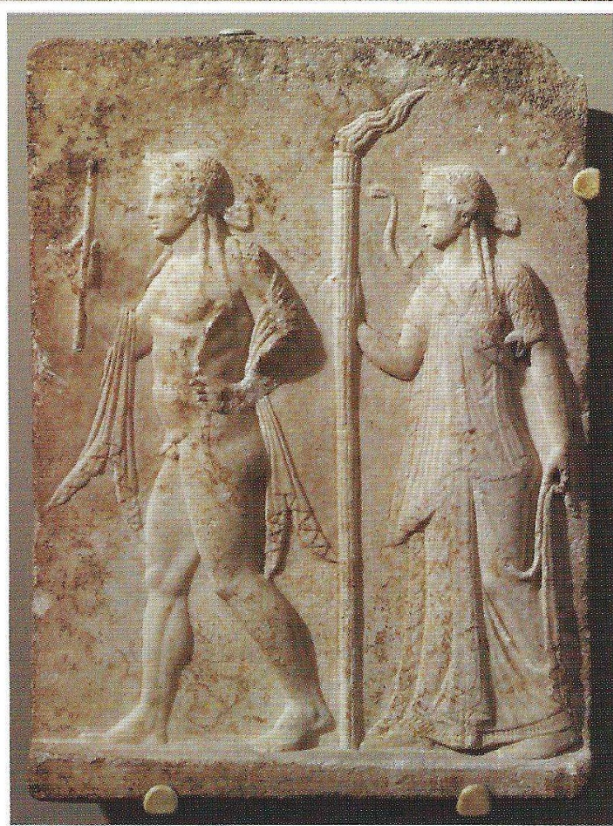


Above

Ruins of the Christian church on the site of ancient Thyatira.

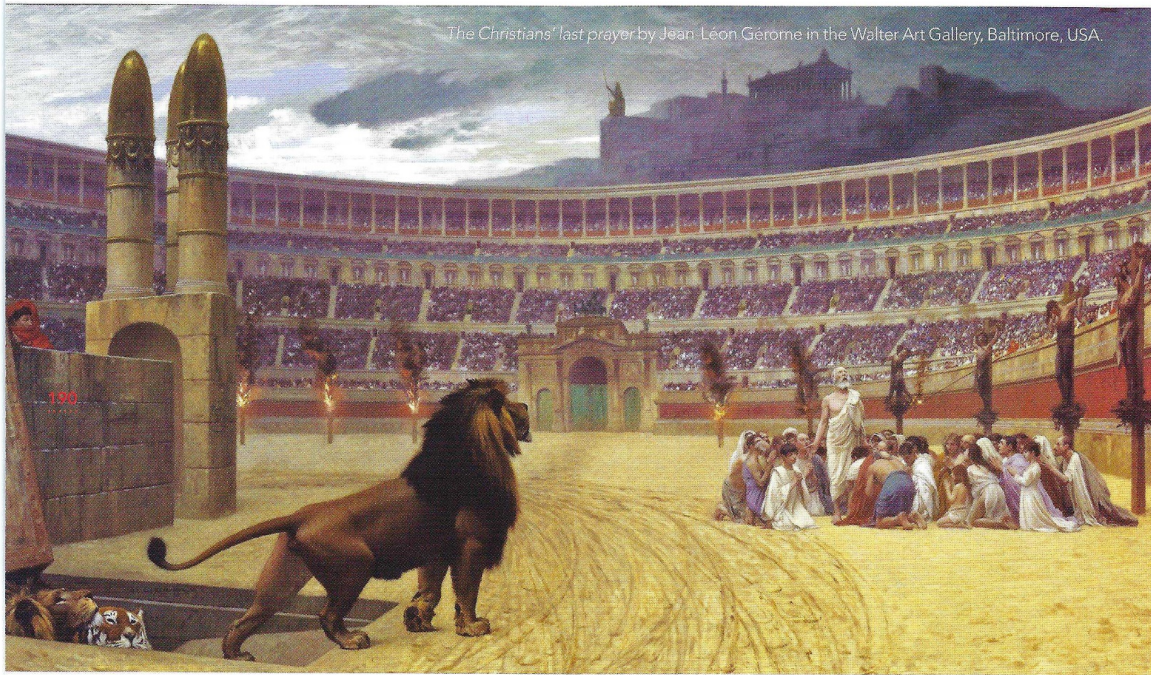
Right

The twin gods Apollo and Artemis (Diana to the Romans), children of Zeus, were worshiped at Thyatira.



Rising persecution

At first, the “foreign superstition” of Christianity was seen as a sect of Judaism and not a great threat. Sporadic but intense persecution fulfilled the many warnings from Christ and His Apostles.



Domitian

The Roman emperor Domitian (81-96), in full Titus Flavius Domitianus Augustus, though reputed to be

a complete tyrant, modernized Rome's fiscal administration and secured the empire's frontiers.