

## The Seven Cities of the Apocalypse and Roman Culture

Roland H., Jr. Worth



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"To understand the immediate cultural and societal background of the cities to which John wrote in Revelation 1 and 2, we must first understand the broader background of Roman civilization and its impact upon the region of its Asian province," writes Roland H. Worth in the introduction to this informational and utterly fascinating work. It is an in-depth study of the history, culture, society, economics, and environment in which early Christians lived in Roman Asia.

Drawing on multi-disciplinary resources, Worth surveys Roman life and attitudes in general, articulating how Roman power developed and was exercised in Asia. He describes characteristics of life in Roman Asia: what it was like to actually live in that province. And he stresses how the imperial cult grew and prospered in the region as well as the nature of official governmental persecution in the first century.

By examining in detail this broader Roman context, this volume provides an invaluable introduction to the study of the specific seven churches in the book of Revelation, the subject of an upcoming second volume. Pulling together a multitude of sources into one volume, this work is a must-have for students and teachers of scripture and for anyone interested in the history of the Roman Empire in general.

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