

1,500-Year-Old Discovery Unearthed in Ancient Biblical City Mentioned in Revelation

Archaeologists have uncovered a remarkably preserved 1,500-year-old mosaic in the ancient city of Smyrna in modern-day İzmir, Turkey, one of the seven churches addressed by Jesus in the Book of Revelation.

The mosaic was discovered during infrastructure work at the archaeological site and dates to between the fourth and sixth centuries A.D., according to reporting by Fox News. Excavators fully uncovered the artwork this year after it was first identified during earlier work.



Order Dinesh D'Souza's New Book, "The Stones Cry Out" on !

The colorful mosaic features geometric patterns, floral designs and a striking heart-shaped ivy leaf crafted from red tesserae. While the symbol resembles the modern heart, excavation director Akin Ersoy said it carried a different meaning in antiquity.

"The ivy leaf clings to trees and walls," Ersoy told Anadolu Agency, as quoted by Fox News. "It came to symbolize loyalty and has been used from antiquity through the centuries."

Ersoy also said later generations appear to have intentionally protected the ancient artwork.

"We can say that the people of that period consciously protected it because there is very little damage," he said.

Researchers believe an Ottoman-era structure built over the

site in the 19th century helped preserve the mosaic by shielding it from destruction. Archaeologists also uncovered bags, cooking pots and earthenware vessels from the late Ottoman Empire and the early Turkish Republic, showing the location remained in use roughly 1,500 years after the mosaic was first laid.

“The space was brought back to life after 1,500 years,” Ersoy said.