

TIFFANY WINDOW LABEL COPY

Ephesus

To him that overcometh I will give to eat of the tree of life, which his in the midst of the paradise of God, Rev 2:7

This most feminine angel, with a full head covering, is depicted holding a tree branch symbolizing the Biblical passage. The folds of the cowl around her neck display a fine example of Tiffany drapery glass.

Smyrna

Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee the crown of life . Rev 2:10

The workmanship of the crown held by the angel Smyrna is too delicate to be accomplished with heavy leading. Instead, Tiffany used a technique called copper foiling to gently wrap each small piece of glass and then solder them together. Larger pieces of chunk glass, called jewels, are also incorporated into the crown.

Pergamos

To him that overcometh will I give a white stone and in the stone a new name written, Rev. 2:17

This most striking angel holds a very large single chunk of luminous white glass, illustrating the stone described in the Bible passage. Pergamos was designed holding the stone at chest height where a heavier bar reinforces the window, holding the stone securely in place for all these years.

Thyatira

He that overcometh, will I give power over the nations — and I will give him the morning star. Rev. 2:26-28

Gazing directly out at the viewer, this center angel is dressed in robes rather than armor. The layers of glass making up the neck scarf artistically create a striped effect, and other subtle variations of glass and color occur throughout the robes.

Sardis

He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white; and I will not blot out his name in the book of life. Rev. 3:3

Garbed in a white robe, and a tunic embellished with glass jewels, Sardis holds the book of life in his left hand. The book, with a cover possibly suggesting animal skin, is constructed of many layers of glass projecting above the plane of the window.

Philadelphia

Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and I will write upon him a new name. Rev. 3:12

For this angel, as with the others, a wide range of Tiffany techniques were used, from the acid-etched glass star at the top, through the reds, oranges, and golds of the ripple glass wings, to the delicately rendered face and hands created with fused enamels.

Laodicea

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne. Rev. 3:21

Laodicea wears armor created with various Tiffany glass effects such as the appearance of chain mail on the sleeves, and the suggestion of fringe at the tunic hem. This final window of the set has the Tiffany Studio mark etched into the glass near the bottom right corner.

TAFT Window Text

Angel window labels, to be placed on angled panels below each angel, horizontal format

Ephesus

"To him that overcometh I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." This feminine angel holds a branch from the tree of life, which symbolizes the promise of immortality in heaven. The cowl at her neck is formed of wavy Tiffany drapery glass, which was pulled into folds when hot.

Smyrna

"Be thou faithful until death, and I will give thee the crown of life." The text alludes to the crown of eternal life, to be given to those who keep faith through spiritual trials. Tiffany made the crown bright by wrapping the yellow glass pieces with thin copper foil and using chunk glass for the jewels.

Pergamos

"To him that overcometh will I give a white stone and in the stone a new name written." This most masculine angel wears a warrior's armor and holds the promised white glass stone, likely a symbol of freedom. Depicted as victorious, the angel lets his shield drop. A heavy metal bar holds the stone in place.

Thyatira

"He that overcometh will I give power over the nations—and I will give him the morning star."

Swedenborg interpreted stars as the knowledge of goodness, and the morning star as the union of love and wisdom. Stars also appear over all seven angels, radiating light to symbolize their role as guides through darkness.

Sardis

"He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white; and I will not blot his name out of the book of life." Dressed in white, the color of purity, the angel holds the book of life, the list of those who will live eternally. Mottled glass, used for the book's cover, suggests a book cover made from animal fur.

Philadelphia

"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my god, and I will write upon him a new name." The pillar, a metaphor for the upholding of truth, signifies that the virtuous will have a vital supporting role in the new church in heaven. Here, as in the other angels, reddish ripple glass forms the vibrant wings.

Laodicea

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne." This angel appears as an armed conqueror with crown and scepter. The Biblical author warns listeners to repent their sins in order to reign with God. In all seven windows, four layers of glass plating create sophisticated coloristic effects.

Note from Cheryl: I would say the Taft labels are a little more informal compared with ICWA; they also discuss the symbolism of the elements in the compositions a little more, whereas mine talk a little more about the glass craftsmanship. On the other hand, I think mentioning that the studio mark can be seen on the seventh window is nice to include -- CD