

The Message to Thyatira

Revelation 2:18-29

August 14, 2022

I. Introduction

- A. This is the longest letter of the seven
- B. Overview
 - 1. Whole church – vs. 18-9
 - 2. A group within the church – vs. 20-23
 - 3. A faithful group within the church – vs. 24-28
 - 4. Whole church – v. 29

II. The Church at Thyatira

- A. The city – v. 18a
 - 1. 35-40 miles southeast of Pergamum



- 2. A very small city but famous for its wool and dyeing industry
- 3. There were a lot of trade guilds
- 4. Page 88 – Johnson
- B. The Christ – v. 18b
 - 1. *“The Son of God”*
 - a. Only used here in the Revelation; used to emphasize His Deity.
 - 2. *“...eyes like a flame of fire and His feet are like burnished bronze...”*
 - a. This points to His righteous judgment on sin
- C. The Commendation – v. 19
 - 1. Their deeds of love, faith, service, and perseverance
 - 2. Their deeds continued to increase
 - 3. God knows our deeds (Ecclesiastes 12:14)
- D. The Condemnation – vs. 20-23
 - 1. The woman Jezebel: most commentators feel this woman at Thyatira is likened to the wife of Ahab but is not so named.
 - 2. Old Testament Jezebel
 - a. Daughter of Ethbaal, King of the Sidonians – I Kings 16

- b. Wife of Ahab, King of Israel
- c. Arch enemy of Elijah
- d. Her daughter, Athaliah, married Jehoram, King of Judah – II Kings 9
- 3. She identified herself as a prophetess.
 - a. It’s your own fault if you follow the wrong person regardless of how they identify themselves.
- 4. Her sins: she taught and led astray Christ’s bondservants into:
 - a. Immorality
 - b. Idolatry
- 5. God, as always, gave her opportunity to repent – v. 21
- 6. Her, and her followers, judgment
 - a. Her judgment was to receive the evil desires of her heart – v. 22
 - b. This results in great troubles for her – v. 22
 - c. The death of her children, i.e., her followers – v. 23
 - d. This will have a purifying effect on the church. – v. 23
- 7. Jezebel encouraged “compartmentalization”; she taught both/and not either/or!
- E. Challenge and Promise – vs. 24-29
 - 1. *“But I say to the rest of you...”* even within this small church there were faithful, pure believers. – vs. 24-25
 - 2. Believers will reign and rule with Christ during the millennium.
 - a. Psalm 2:8-9; II Timothy 2:12; Revelation 20:4-6
 - 3. Jesus is the morning star – v. 28
 - a. Numbers 24:17; Revelation 22:16)
 - 4. Hear and heed – v. 29

III. Application

- A. Prophetic
 - 1. Thyatira has been called the “Pagan Church”
 - 2. This church may represent the church in her history from 606-1520, the Middle or Dark Ages.
- B. Personal
 - 1. Does “both”, or an “either/or” best describe your walk?
 - 2. Are you half-hearted like Solomon?