

THE CORRUPT CHURCH: THYATIRA – REV. 2:18-29

SERIES: *WHAT WOULD JESUS SAY TO OUR CHURCH?*

¹⁵ "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother. ¹⁶ "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED. ¹⁷ "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

Matthew 18:15-17 (NASB)

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, ²⁶ so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

Ephesians 5:25-27 (NASB)

1. THYATIRA: THE CITY AND THE CHURCH

- Thyatira was the smallest of the cities addressed in Revelation 2-3. It was a military garrison on the road to Pergamum. It was frequently destroyed by enemy forces.
- Roman rule changed Thyatira to a booming commercial site connecting Smyrna to Laodicea. The city specialized in dyed fabrics particularly a purple dye.
- Thyatira never developed into a religious center but was dominated by trade guilds. Each guild had a deity/ false god, it worshipped.
- Scripture is silent regarding when the church at Thyatira was founded, but Acts 16:14 refers to Lydia from Thyatira a seller of purple fabrics worshipped God.

2. A WORD FROM THE _____ JUDGE

¹⁸ "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this: **Revelation 2:18 (NASB)**

²⁶ "Therefore do not fear them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. **Matthew 10:26 (NASB)**

¹³ And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. **Hebrews 4:13 (NASB)**

¹⁹ 'I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first. **Revelation 2:19 (NASB)**

3. THE THYATIRA CHURCH _____ "JEZEBEL"

²⁰ 'But I have *this* against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit *acts of immorality* and eat things sacrificed to idols. **Revelation 2:20 (NASB)**

³⁰ Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD more than all who were before him. ³¹ It came about, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he married Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and went to serve Baal and worshiped him. **1 Kings 16:30-31 (NASB)**

³ Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints. ⁴ For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ. **Jude 3-4 (NASB)**

²¹ 'I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. ... ²⁴ 'But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you.

Revelation 2:21, 24 (NASB)

4. JESUS' MESSAGE OF CONDEMNATION

²² Take note: I will throw her on a bed [of anguish], and those who commit adultery with her [her paramours] I will bring down to pressing distress *and* severe affliction, unless they turn away their minds from conduct [such as] hers *and* repent of *their* doings. ²³ And I will strike her children (her proper followers) dead [thoroughly exterminating them]. And all the assemblies (churches) shall recognize *and* understand that I am He Who searches minds (the thoughts, feelings, and purposes) and the [inmost] hearts, and I will give to each of you [the reward for what you have done] as your work deserves.

Revelation 2:22-23 (AMP)

5. JESUS' MESSAGE OF COMFORT FOR THE FAITHFUL

²⁴ 'But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you.

²⁵ 'Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come. ²⁶ 'He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; ²⁷ AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received *authority* from My Father; ²⁸ and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.' **Revelation 2:24-29 (NASB)**