

Message to the Church in Thyatira



Revelation 2:24-29.

[24](#) But I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned the so-called deep things of Satan: I will place no further burden upon you.

[25](#) Nevertheless, hold fast to what you have until I come.

[26](#) And to the one who overcomes and continues in My work until the end, I will give authority over the nations.

[27](#) He will rule them with an iron scepter and shatter them like pottery —just as I 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.

Some church historians believed that these seven churches pointed to seven church age History. For example, the

Ephesus AD 30-100. Apostolic age

Smyrna. AD 100-313 Persecuted church

Pergamos AD 313-590 State Church

Thyatira. AD 590- 1517 Papal Church

Sardis. AD 1517-1790 Reformed Church

Philadelphia AD 1730-1900 Missionary church

Laodicea. AD 1900- Apostate Church age!

This papal Catholic church reigning during Middle Ages the Nations fits Thyatira perfectly!

As Jezebel made Israel to worship her goddess Ashtoreth, (called the queen of heaven) Catholic Church introduced Mother Mary to be worshipped!

We are not studying these 7 church messages out of intellectual curiosity or to simply gain in knowledge, but we believe that hidden within these 7 messages is a unique and personal message

for each one of us and for the church. There is no perfect believer and there is no perfect church but the Lord desires that we strive toward perfection. The only way we can do that is by recognizing & building on our strengths and overcoming our weaknesses. I believe these 7 messages speak clearly about the strengths and weaknesses within the life of every believer and the church. So let us pay very close to these Words. It is still very relevant for us!

Today let us focus on the 4th message of Jesus to the church of Thyatira.



This city is 35 miles east of Pergamum, but it was not considered a great city in its day. It was known for producing wool and textiles. When God called the apostle Paul to Macedonia, Lydia, a fabric trader from Thyatira, was the first person from there to open her heart to the gospel. She was in the business of creating colorful dyed clothes! “Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. (Acts 16:13-15). So Thyatira was a textile, industrial town, and the church of our Lord Jesus was planted there, and this is what Jesus had to tell them!

(The message to these churches follows a similar pattern that we saw in the other three churches. We see five stages always:)

- Introduction of Lord Jesus Christ,
- commendation
- admonishment
- a call to repentance
- reward for overcomers

Now these phrases may sound very similar to previous churches, so I may pick only those words that are different from others!

1. Jesus, the Son of God, not just the Messiah.

Revelation 2: 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:

Note the Word, Son of God! This is the only time the word "Son of God" is mentioned in Revelation!! But in the book of John, it was mentioned so often! Jesus Christ is not just Lord, but Son of God, begotten, not created, fully God, and fully human, the same essence, substance, and nature of His Father, ye, His Father is greater than the Son! This Son of God was born of the virgin, and became flesh, and dwelt among us!

2. Jesus' positive note about this church!

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

Jesus knows our works! Lord's fiery eyes are able to see more than a normal eye. They can penetrate deep into the hidden areas of our lives. The flames of fire will test not only the quality of our work but also the intent of our work (v.23 ... searches the reins and hearts). Lord makes his judgment based on his knowledge as he can see everything. So, we need to ask ourselves, If the Lord were to look into our lives and our church with flames of fire ... what would he see? Will he be pleased with what he sees, or will he be displeased??

Psalms 139:23,24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; And see if there be any hurtful way in me, And lead me in an everlasting way. (Psalms 139:23, 24 NASB)

It is exciting to note that the church of Thyatira is getting better! their works are more significant than before! We must press on to give ourselves more to The Lord! Let us not slack off like the Church of Ephesus! This is a great compliment to receive from The Lord!

How is our church compared to before? Are we slacking off? The status quo of doing the same programs is not enough! Bring new things into the church that blesses the church and blesses the community! If you cannot, at least hold onto those things that we have been doing. It is easy to cancel activities, but very hard to start back again!

Bottom line! Don't lose your spiritual ground. Always gain ground!

Now let us see the negative side of this church! All churches have some flaws. Thyatira is no exception!

3. But this church allowed the false prophets.

Revelation 2:20-23 "But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bondservants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds."

We read about Jezebel in I Kings 16 and subsequent chapters... She was married to Ahab, who ruled Israel for 22 years and was considered one of the most wicked kings. By marrying Jezebel, he brought into his family and his nation idol worship, fornication, and eating food offered unto the idols.

We always blame Jezebel. But it was Ahab who sought after unequal yoking due to political power! Young adults, beware, do not be unequally yoked because of power, beauty, money or status, or convenience!

But here this specific woman encouraged people to participate in sexual adultery, and she took part in it! I have told you before. Temple rites are not just sacrificing animals to their gods. It is more than that.

People eat meat very rarely. At the temple, there were sumptuous feasts with all kinds of meat! To go along with that there must have been plenty of strong alcoholic drinks. Along with that, they had sexual rites of temple prostitutes for anyone interested! Sin was progressive! People who want to have just a good buffet, and have a good time, end up with something else! The shocking fact is that this woman was involved in that kind of sexual idolatry. Who knows, she could have been one of the temple prostitutes who joined the church! Notice that she had that ecstatic gift of prophecy that many temple people had! You must remember these characters when you read the letters to the Corinthians about these prophetic women! It is very much possible that Paul had to deal with this kind of prophetic, and that's why he had to make a uniform rule, "women must keep quiet." "Women must cover their head" also because these temple women were bald."

These temple rites were so common, they were not considered as sin at all! This church had no problem with it! Initially, the Corinthian church also had no problem with it! "Food for the belly, belly for the food!"

Lord gave her time to repent. Our Lord is gracious and merciful! But the woman refused it and continued in her fun and wanted it all!

She wanted to be that ecstatic prophetess for the church bringing out phony oracles of God as "thus says The Lord", and then go to the temple and have fun there also! This woman went beyond the limit!

God cannot be mocked! See the punishment!

Lord would throw her on a bed of sickness that the devil may have a feast on her body! Great tribulation was promised for those who played with her, and who refuse to repent.

Her children would also die because of her sins!

Revelation 2:23 "And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds.

There is another side to God of love, and that is God of wrath. Modern preachers have avoided this side so that they do not have to talk about sin and its consequences.

Now read this verse carefully and try to link with the eyes of flame of fire, and that bronze feet that will trample the wicked like how the grapes are trampled to get the juice out.

There is a snapping point in God's patience. You dare not pass that line. God's patience is very high, but there is a breaking point! This is a fact many people do not understand. Don't think that we can live as we please as Christians! We will dangerously trip into the other side of an angry God, which we don't want to face. It is a terrible thing to slide into the wrath of God!

4. Thyatira was innocent concerning the deep things of Satan!

Revelation 24-26 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. Nevertheless, what you have, hold fast until I come. He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations ;

Revelation 2:27,28 "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; and I will give him the morning star. (Revelation 2:28)

Take note of the phrase, deep things of Satan! That was what Jezebel was promoting. We must focus on the deep things of God, and not on the satanic things! Also, Jesus is promising here that He will not place any other burden on us! He wants us to hold fast until He comes. He wants us to keep His deeds. What were the deeds of Jesus? He proclaimed the Gospel, taught the Word, healed the sick, raised the dead, comforted the poor, spent hours and hours with His disciples, and prayed constantly. Let us also follow His footsteps, He lived for us and died for our sake! Let us indeed follow His works!

It is the one who overcomes and gets the authority to reign with Him! The overcomer will receive the Morning Star, as they receive the Hidden Manna.

What is this morning star? According to Revelation,

Revelation 22:16 "Christ is the Morning Star! So He is the bread of life, Manna, and He is the bright shining light! The Morning Star. When Christ resides and reflects within us, we will be like Him!

Hidden Manna is bread from the heaven, the Word of God!

Conclusion:

In our Christian life, we need to endure the cross and become overcomers so that we can enjoy the crown. There is no victory celebration without a battle, and there can be no crown without a cross.

Overcomers are those who hear God's word and make changes to their lives in response to his word.

Let our actions be better than yesterday! Let tomorrow's actions be much better than today! Keep improving and press on!

Let us not drift into deep things of Satan like Jezebel. But let us dig deep into deep things of God! Amen!

Daniel Israel
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