

# The Call to Overcome Idolatrous Compromise

Revelation 2:18-29



Pergamum

★ Thyatira

Smyrna

Sardis

Philadelphia

Ephesus

Laodicea

Patmos





HIGHER GROUND

## Acts 16:14

One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, **from the city of Thyatira**, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.



# Key Historical Context

- 1) Emperor worship not prominent
- 2) **Most professional trade guilds in Asia!!**
- 3) Primarily worshipped Apollo

# The Call to Overcome Idolatrous Compromise

Revelation 2:18-29

**Big Idea- Anytime we compromise our obedience to Christ, we are guilty of worshipping idols of the heart. Christ calls us to love God supremely and to turn from all idolatrous compromise.**

- 1) A Relevant Description of Christ
- 2) Christ's Assessment of His Church
- 3) A Promised Reward

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## Hebrews 11:6

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

## 1 Kings 21:25

There was none who sold himself to do what was evil in the sight of the LORD like Ahab, whom Jezebel his wife incited. He acted very abominably in going after idols, as the Amorites had done, whom the LORD cast out before the people of Israel.

## Matthew 6:24

No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

## Romans 2:4

Do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance?

## 2 Corinthians 6:2

For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time;  
behold, now is the day of salvation.

## Jeremiah 17:10

“I the LORD search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds.”

## Matthew 17:27

For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then **he will repay each person according to what he has done.**

## Romans 2:6-8

He will render to each one **according to his works**: to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury.

## Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **not a result of works**, so that no one may boast.

## 2 Timothy 4:3

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions...

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## Psalm 2:6-9

As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill. I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. **You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.**"

## Numbers 24:17

I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: **a star shall come out of Jacob**, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel;

## Revelation 22:16

I am the root and the descendant of David, **the bright morning star.**

## Psalm 135:15-18

The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of human hands. They have mouths, but do not speak; they have eyes, but do not see; they have ears, but do not hear, nor is there any breath in their mouths. **Those who make them become like them, so do all who trust in them.**