

**Seven Churches**  
**Part 4.**  
**The Church in Thyatira**

**Special Recognition:**

Life of Christ Class / 2 Year Class:

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**Revelation 2**

18 “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. 19 I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

20 Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.

22 So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. 23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

24 Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan’s so-called deep secrets, ‘I will not impose any other burden on you, 25 except to hold on to what you have until I come.’

26 To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations — 27 that one ‘will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery’ — just as I have received authority from my Father. 28 I will also give that one the morning star. 29 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

## Vs. 18

*“These are the words of the **Son of God**, whose **eyes are like blazing fire** and whose **feet are like burnished bronze**.”*

Jesus first describes Himself with a title that emphasizes His *deity*. In Jewish thought, to be the *son of* a thing meant you had the nature of that thing. The *sons of the sorceress* (Isaiah 57:3) had the nature of the sorceress. The *sons of thunder* (Mark 3:17) had a nature like thunder. So the **Son of God** has the divine nature of **God**.

Jesus also description Himself to the Church in Thyatira with two things:

1. **Eyes like a blazing fire:** This emphasizes that His **eyes** penetrate. In this case his eyes have a penetrating judgment.
2. **Feet like burnished bronze:** Jesus chose this description of Himself from Revelation 1:15 to emphasize His *purity*, because **brass** is pure, and highly refined in the fire. It also emphasizes His *steadfastness*, because **brass** was the strongest known metal in the ancient world, and **feet like fine brass** would be strong and unmovable.

## Vs. 19

*I know your **deeds**, your **love and faith**, your **service and perseverance**, and that you are **now doing more than you did at first**.*

Once again Jesus reminds the Church he is the all knowing:

He is the owner of the Church and inspector of every part:

He says, I know:

Your Deeds...

Your Love and Faith, Your Service and Perseverance...

- In many ways, the church at Thyatira was a model church. Because they possessed these four great essential qualities.

and that you are now doing more than you did at first...

## **Vs. 20-21**

*20 **Nevertheless**, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.*

**Nevertheless:** Despite all the good Jesus sees in the church at Thyatira, there are significant problems. The problems are big enough for Jesus to say nevertheless, which means "**despite all the good, I have a few things against you.**"

### **Because you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet:**

- There is a powerful association here and it had great meaning to these people. If we called someone a "Judas" or a "Hitler" it would have a strong meaning to us today; that very thing is taking place here.
  - Jezebel was one of the most evil characters of the Old Testament, who attempted to control Israel and combine the worship of Jehovah with the worship of the idol Baal ...
  - Once again we see how important the issue of sexual purity is to Jesus and the with it idolatry.
  - This was a central theme to the Church 2000 years ago and is still alive and well in 2018...
  - If we desire to please God we must remain pure...
  - We Cannot Tolerate any compromise with the Woman Jezebel...
  - Jezebel represents Worldliness... Sexual Immorality...Idolatry...  
Compromise with Sin... and ultimately Rebellion towards God and his established Authority...
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- The Power of Jezebel is in her ability to Control Mindsets...
  - The Spirit of Jezebel is Seductive and Controlling...

## **Vs. 22**

*22 So I will cast her on a bed of suffering (sickness), and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, **unless they repent of her ways**.*

Those in the Church that the Lord is Chastening are guilty of not their own misleadings but of **Her Ways**...

Be Careful who you listen to...

Be Careful who you follow...

Be Careful who you trust...

If we put our eyes on anyone other than Christ, we are amiss...

Thank God for his Example and his Word and His Spirit!!!

### **Vs. 23 NIV**

**“I will strike her children dead.** Then all the **churches will know that I am** he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.”

### **NKJV**

“I will kill her children with death”

(Trapp) - “All men die, but all are not killed with death ... Oh, it is a woeful thing to be killed with death.”

?Who’s children does Jesus say he will kill?

Jezebel’s Children...

The wording here is likened unto what God did to the Egyptians because of Pharaoh’s stubbornness towards God in not releasing his people from Egypt.

### **Exodus 11**

**4** “This is what the Lord says: ‘About midnight I will go throughout Egypt.

**5** Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the female slave, who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well. **6** There will be loud wailing throughout Egypt—worse than there has ever been or ever will be again. **7** But among the Israelites not a dog will bark at any person or animal.’ Then you will know that the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

- In the same way Pharaoh wanted to control God’s People and keep them in slavery in Egypt...

- Jezebel wants to control God's people and seduce them into slavery to sexual sin and idolatry...

Exodus 12:12 God says, "and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt."

Remember Jesus said to the Church in Smyrna, "I am the First and the Last"...

The one who spoke in Exodus 11 is the same in Revelation 2...

He is the God who Delivered his people from Egypt...

He is the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever...

### **Vs. 24-29**

24 Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets, 'I will not impose any other burden on you, 25 except to hold on to what you have until I come.'

- This lets us know that not everyone in the Church has fallen into the deception of Jezebel...
- These believers in Thyatira have kept their hearts and lives pure...
- They have not been drawn into what Jesus reveals as a "so-called deep secret" of Satan...
- They have remained faithful...

So the Lord says:

"I will not impose any other burden on you, except to hold on to what you have until I come.

### **Exodus 11**

7 But among the Israelites not a dog will bark at any person or animal.'

Then you will know that the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

There is a promise of God's protection, promotion and reward to those who are faithful. But God's judgment to those who are not.

**Vs. 26-28**

26 To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— 27 that one 'will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery'—just as I have received authority from my Father. 28 I will also give that one the morning star.

Closing:

The one who is victorious is the one who does God's will to the end...

The one who does God's Will, will be given Authority from God...

They will not be slaves but they will be Rulers...

He will give that one the Morning Star...

He is the Morning Star...