

Revelation 2:18-23 A Call to Holiness

God is holy. And He has called His people to be holy too. Holiness isn't very popular these days, but it is what we need. For without it, no one can see God.

Topic: Holiness

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7 Letters to the Churches

- 2:1-7 Ephesus: The Loveless/Legalistic Church
- 2:8-11 Smyrna: The Persecuted Church
- 2:12-17 Pergamos: The Compromising Church
- 2:18-29 Thyatira: The Corrupt Church

What was beginning at Pergamos was going full speed at Thyatira.

Compromise always leads to corruption.

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Acts 16:13-14 — And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met there. Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God...

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*Tertullian- Must you live? -

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Jezebel: 1 Kings 16-2 Kings 9

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“to teach and seduce”

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Roman Catholics & The Bible

Vatican II (1962–1965)

“The Church forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful... to learn by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures the ‘excellent knowledge of Jesus Christ’ (Phil 3:8).”

“Easy access to Sacred Scripture should be provided for all the Christian faithful.”

“We prohibit also that the laity should be permitted to have the books of the Old or New Testament; but we most strictly forbid their having any translation of these books.”

— Council of Toulouse, Canon 14 (A.D. 1229)

“No one may possess the books of the Old and New Testaments in the Romance language, and if anyone possesses them, he must turn them over to the local bishop within eight days, so that they may be burned.”

— Council of Tarragona, 1234

The Constitutions of Oxford (1408) in England forbade translation or reading of English Scripture (targeting Wycliffe’s Bible).

-The Council of Trent (1546) declared that only the Church may interpret Scripture.

-1713, Pope Clement XI issues papal bull (Unigenitus Dei Filius) and condemned as “heretical” statements such as “the reading of Holy Scripture is for all.”

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“I gave her time to repent”

*7 churches Timeline video

*7 churches timeline picture

Psalm 50:21 — These things you have done, and I kept silent; You thought that I was altogether like you; But I will rebuke you, And set them in order before your eyes.

Hebrews 12:7-8 —I should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

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Lit. - “she will not repent”

-NLT — but she does not want to turn away from her immorality.

-ESV — but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality.

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“I will kill her children with death”

Guns, knives, & poison may only injure, but 10 times out of 10, “killing with death” works.

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“adultery”

“They had many commendations, but no mention of sound doctrine or holy living.”

“Love” and works are of very little value when there is adultery in the marriage.

What was Jesus’ first command/orders to the Church?

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God Desires A Holy Church

Ephesians 5:25-27 — Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

1 Peter 1:15-16 — but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.”

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God Desires A Holy Church

God Is Crying Out To His Disobedient Children

Hosea 11:7 — My people are bent on backsliding from Me. Though they call to the Most High, None at all exalt Him.

Isaiah 65:2 — I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, Who walk in a way that is not good, According to their own thoughts;

Matthew 23:37 — “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

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God Desires A Holy Church

God Is Crying Out To His Disobedient Children
Our Sin Separates Us From God

Isaiah 59:1-2 — Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; And your sins have hidden His face from you, So that He will not hear.

Psalms 24:3-5 — Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive blessing from the LORD, And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Hebrews 12:12-17 — Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed. Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord

looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled; lest there be any fornicator or profane person like Esau, who for one morsel of food sold his birthright.

For you know that afterward, when he wanted to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought it diligently with tears.

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God Desires A Holy Church
And God Is Crying Out To His Disobedient Children
Our Sin Separates Us From God
But Repentance Restores Us

Ezekiel 18:23 — “Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?” says the Lord GOD, “and not that he should turn from his ways and live?.. For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord GOD. “Therefore turn and live!”

2 Peter 3:9 — [The Lord] is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Isaiah 55:6-7 — Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

1 John 1:9 — If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Proverbs 28:13 — He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

Luke 15:7 — “I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

Luke 15:17-24 — But when he came to himself, he said... ‘I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’

“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

“But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. ‘And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; ‘for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry.

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God Desires A Holy Church
And God Is Crying Out To His Disobedient Children
Our Sin Separates Us From God
But Repentance Restores Us
Therefore...

2 Corinthians 6:14-15 — Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 — Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.”

James 4:4-10 — Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”?

But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God

and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Psalms 139:23-24 — Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

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Isaiah 6:1-8 — In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts."

Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged."

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me."

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Without holiness we cannot see God.

-Without God we cannot be holy.