"Seven: Hope from Jesus in Revelation" (Part 5) The Fourth Letter: Church in Thyatira Sunday, March 17th, 2019

Revelation 1:6-8 (NLT)

6He has made us a Kingdom of priests for God his Father. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen. 7Look! He comes with the clouds of heaven. And everyone will see him even those who pierced him. And all the nations of the world will mourn for him. Yes! Amen! 8"I am the Alpha and the Omega—the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come—the Almighty One."

To Christians in a Culture of Tolerance

Revelation 2:18-29 (NLT)

18"Write this letter to the angel of the church in Thyatira. This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze:

19"I know all the things you do. I have seen your love, your faith, your service, and your patient endurance. And I can see your constant improvement in all these things.

20"But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman—that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to lead my

servants astray. She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols. 21I gave her time to repent, but she does not want to turn away from her immorality. 22"Therefore, I will throw her on a bed of suffering, and those who commit adultery with her will suffer greatly unless they repent and turn away from her evil deeds. 23I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am the one who searches out the thoughts and intentions of every person. And I will give to each of you whatever you deserve.

24"But I also have a message for the rest of you in Thyatira who have not followed this false teaching ('deeper truths,' as they call them—depths of Satan, actually). I will ask nothing more of you 25except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come. 26To all who are victorious, who obey me to the very end, To them I will give authority over all the nations.

27They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots.

28They will have the same authority I received from my Father, and I will also give them the morning star!

29"Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. <u>Apocalyptic Literature- More Symbolic than Literal</u>

"Of all bad men, religious bad men are the worst." -C.S. Lewis

What you believe about God, how you are to be led by His Spirit, and what it looks like to please Him will greatly impact your life and the lives of those around you. "This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze." (Rev. 2:18, NLT)

5I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist. 6His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people. (Daniel 10:5-6, NLT)

I am the Son of God.

My eyes are like fire.

My feet are like polished bronze.

Is what I'm currently devoting my time, money and energy to going to last? Does it have feet of bronze or feet of clay?

"I know all the things you do. I have seen your love, your faith, your service, and your patient endurance. And I can see your constant improvement in all these things." (Rev. 2:19, NLT)

"But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman—that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to lead my servants astray." (Rev. 2:20a, NLT)

How To Spot False Teachers:

A love of authority and titles.

A refusal to receive correction.

Jesus says, "*I have given her time to repent, but she is unwilling*." (Rev. 2:21, NIV)

Claims of secret teaching not found in Scripture.

Jesus describes, "Satan's so-called deep secrets" (Rev. 2:24b, NIV) or "deeper truths, as they call them—depths of Satan actually." (Rev. 2:24b, NLT)

"CHRIST—PLUS"

"Love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself." (Deuteronomy 6:5 and Matthew 22:37)

DON'T CONFUSE SUCCESS WITH BLESSING

Prosperity may show God's *patience*, not only His approval.

TRUTH - LOVE = LEGALISM

LOVE – TRUTH = LICENSE

TRUTH + LOVE = A CHRIST-LIKE ATTITUDE