

A. SERMON SLIDES

Thyatira Church: Be Holy Not Tolerant
Revelation 2:18-29

Revelation 2:18–29 (ESV)

“And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: ‘The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

“ ‘I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first. But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works. But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what some call the deep things of Satan, to you I say, I do not lay on you any other burden. Only hold fast what you have until I come. The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Have someone read Revelation 2:18-29. What do you see and feel? What are some questions you have of the text?
2. Jesus is "holding against" his people for not "holding against." Use this context to talk about Truth and the importance of repentance in the life of a believer. What is the problem with thinking that "tolerance" is a virtue?
3. What do you think about this Jezebel woman? Have someone explain the real Jezebel from 1 and 2 Kings. What is happening in this church with the trade guilds?
4. Talk about this: Salvation is a process. How and why is that true?
5. Talk about this: Our destiny should give us courage in the temporal. Why? How?
6. Pray for our church. Pray that we learn what it means to be tolerant and truthful....and to learn to "hold against" even when that doesn't seem loving.