

Bible Study: The Church in Thyatira — Discernment in a Complex World

Read together Revelation 2:18–29

Opening Question

Where do you find it hardest in life to know when to speak and when to stay silent?”

Study

1. According to Revelation 2:18–19, how does Jesus describe Himself to the church in Thyatira, and what does this reveal about His ability to see and judge their situation?
2. What strengths does Jesus affirm in the church (v. 19)? Which qualities does He highlight, and how do their “latter works” exceed their first?
3. What problem does Jesus identify in verses 20–21? Who is “Jezebel” in this context, and what kinds of compromise is she promoting?
4. What consequences does Jesus warn about for those who refuse to repent (vv. 22–23)? What do these warnings teach us about the seriousness of spiritual compromise?
5. Thyatira’s central struggle was love without discernment—tolerance that drifted into compromise. Why do you think love becomes dangerous when it loses discernment? How does this tension still appear in the modern church?
6. Jesus tells the faithful, “Hold fast what you have until I come” (v. 25).

What does “holding fast” look like for believers living in a culture where blending in often feels easier than standing out?

7. Jesus promises two things to those who overcome: shared authority (Psalm 2) and “the morning star” (vv. 26–28).

How do these promises help motivate perseverance today?

8. Consider the eight practices of discernment from the sermon (fresh eyes, thirst for knowledge, Scripture-guided, testing spirits, seeking wisdom, choosing obedience, guarding against false appearances, practicing discernment in community).

Which one do you feel the Spirit calling you to grow in right now, and what would taking a next faithful step look like this week?