

## LETTERS

Today in the fourth letter to the church at Thyatira we see another church like Pergamos – tolerance, compromise, idolatry

Jesus spoke to them and said He cannot tolerate sin. He is either Lord over every area of your life or He's not really Lord at all

**Rev 2:18-29 “And to the <sup>[a]</sup>angel of the church in Thyatira write,**

**‘These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: <sup>19</sup> “I know your works, love, <sup>[b]</sup>service, faith, and your <sup>[c]</sup>patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless I have <sup>[d]</sup>a few things against you, because you allow <sup>[e]</sup>that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, <sup>[f]</sup>to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. <sup>21</sup> And I gave her time to <sup>[g]</sup>repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. <sup>22</sup> Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of <sup>[h]</sup>their deeds. <sup>23</sup> I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches<sup>[i]</sup> the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.**

**<sup>24</sup> “Now to you I say, <sup>[j]</sup>and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I <sup>[k]</sup>will put on you no other burden. <sup>25</sup> But hold fast what you have till I come. <sup>26</sup> And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—**

**<sup>27</sup> ‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron;  
They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’ —**

**as I also have received from My Father; <sup>28</sup> and I will give him the morning star.**

**<sup>29</sup> “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’**

This is the smallest church that received the longest correction. Jesus shows us here what we tolerate in our lives matters

True repentance involves surrendering every area of our lives to Christ’s authority

## **v. 18**

Here Jesus recognizes Himself to the church as “the Son of God”

His eyes like blazing flames of fire – which shows the penetrating power of His vision and His feet of bronze indicate His strength for executing judgment (He’s grabbing their attention quickly)

## **v. 19**

Here Jesus commends them for their good works, they were a busy and active church that outwardly looked to be flourishing

But then tolerance for sin was like hidden cancer that would eventually destroy its life

**James 1:14,15 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.**

Sin’s only destination is death!

**James 2:24 You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.**

We are justified by what we do and not only by what we profess

Jesus was saying I’m not looking at what you believe but how you live!

## **v. 20**

Here comes the hammer – you have allowed that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to seduce and manipulate you

She claimed she had a gift of prophecy but she was a self-appointed religious prophetess who led people into error

She used her influence to teach positions that were contrary to God’s Word

Self-appointed and not God-called seeking to influence and corrupt spiritual leadership

This is very relevant today with social media. There are many self-appointed prophets who have no proper spiritual oversight

Like Jezebel, instead of being God-called and sent, they operate under no one's authority which can and will lead into error just like this church

Anything not planted and established under biblical authority of His church will be out from under an umbrella of God's divine protection and validation for ministry

The Bible's method is you're called, commissioned, disciple, trained, anointed, and sent out by the church!

Basically, Jesus was saying anything else is being self-appointed and self-anointed and refuse any spiritual authority to be submissive to!

Jezebel blatantly led the church into the sin of idolatry and sexual sin. Why?

God's established authority which requires us walking in submission to someone. True spiritual authority comes from being planted in a local church and being sent with blessings and oversight

Anyone who has no authority over them, if not following the Biblical example of leadership, that leads to idolatry

What is idolatry?

An idol is anything you give strength to or if it draws strength from you. Anything we put before Jesus is an idol. Anything we give control over us that we think can't live without

Jezebel seduced them into idolatry (adultery, fornication, homosexuality LGBTQ,

Here's a good lesson, take no one's advice if they're not under someone's authority

Let me ask you this morning, what harmless idols are seducing you to follow the wrong path of compromise?

Christ condemned this self-appointed prophetess teaching and told them to hold tightly to the basics of Christian faith and moral teaching of the church

I can see with AI many will be deceived

**v. 24-29**

Jesus promised great rewards to those who remain faithful and keep His commands

He promises authority over the nations and He will give them the morning star which appears just before dawn, when the night is the coldest and darkest

When the world gets to the blackest point He will burst on the scene exposing evil with light and faith before His second coming!

These letters were read to every church and those who have an ear to hear what the Spirit says in this house need to get right and ready!