



Thyatira – Revelation 2:18 – 29

The Tolerant Church

Pastor Adam Hall ☞ Dryden First Baptist Church ☞ Oct 16, 2022

Revelation 2:18-29 ESV

¹⁸ “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.

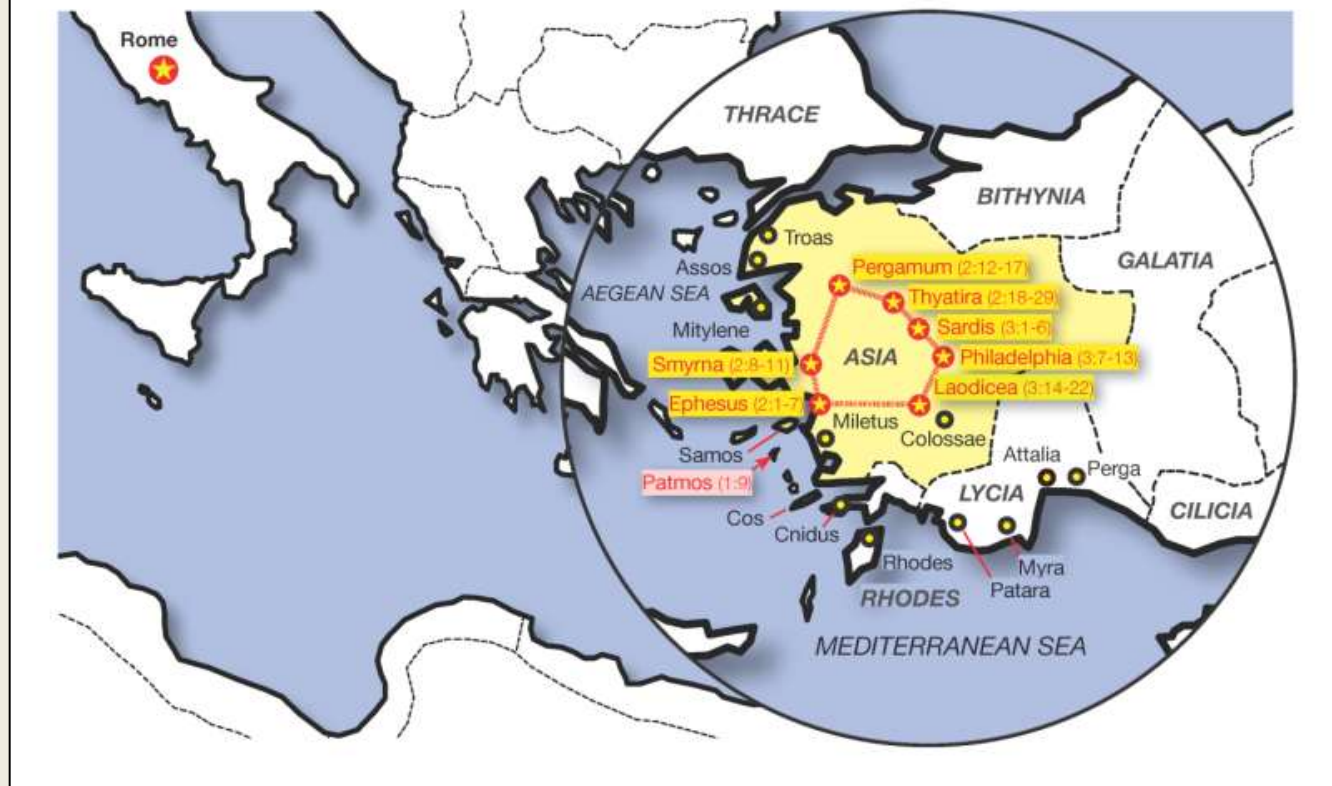
¹⁹ “‘I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first. ²⁰ But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual

immorality. ²² 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, ²³ 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.

²⁴ 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. ²⁵ Only hold fast what you have until I come. ²⁶ The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ And I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

REVELATION: ROME & THE SEVEN CHURCHES

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Introduction and Background

- did you know there is a way to stop getting poison ivy?
- who does not hate the itching, scratching and pain that comes from rubbing a poison ivy plant?
- this remedy comes from anitasanchez.com!

It's research, after all. There's an old, old belief that eating a leaf of poison ivy every day in the spring will make you _____ to the itch. It's undoubtedly true, I read it on the internet! All sorts of websites attribute the custom to Canadian loggers and others who enjoy the outdoors.

But many reputable sources agree that it's possible to attain immunity by eating poison ivy. Euell Gibbons, the famous wild foods guru of the sixties, swore by this method—he recommended starting in spring when the leaves are small, and eating one a day, therefore getting a small and slowly increasing dose of the toxic chemical that causes the itch, so that your system can gradually develop an immunity.

- I remember telling a “nature nut” friend of mine about this remedy and he looked at me very concerned and said, “you know you are eating poison right?”

- imagine that that, if you eat enough poison you become _____ to its effects

- this helps us understand the _____ of sin
- we can consume and partake in sin in little doses day by day
- our conscience might be a little upset about what we have done
- but we keep on indulging then we partake in greater sins and _____ of those greater sins
- and eventually we become immune to the _____ of sin and it does not even bother us anymore
- the more sin that we consume, will often lead to a decreased guilt and then one becomes more tolerant of _____

- this was the danger of what was going on in the Thyatira church
- they had works, faith, love, service and patient endurance but they were _____ ing sin in their midst
- the sin that they were tolerating was very _____ and it was the teaching of Jezebel

- going back to the poison ivy remedy, there are some that think that eating poison ivy does not make you immune
- the only way to _____ getting poison ivy is to know how to identify it and to stay away from it
- I remember two guys were cutting wood and unfortunately they did not know how to identify poison ivy
- they were cutting these huge vines and they got a surprise the next day: itch, itch and more itch
- this is the best way to deal with sin, we need to know “what is sin?” and we need to avoid sin by the power of the Holy Spirit
- therefore let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches and let us respond to the Word of God by _____ and faithfulness to Christ

- the city of Thyatira, out of all the cities addressed by Jesus Christ in Revelation, was the most insignificant, although Jesus has the _____ to say to this church
- Thyatira was smaller than the other cities like Pergamum and Ephesus
- Thyatira was a city with lots of industry and manufacturing
- Thyatira had metal workers, fabric makers, fabric dyers and other manufacturing jobs
- like the other cities that Jesus addresses in Revelation, Thyatira had multiple _____ and shrines where people worshipped false gods

- the first time we hear about Thyatira in the New Testament is in the book of _____
- we read of a lady from Thyatira named Lydia

Acts 16:14-15 One who heard us was a woman named _____, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. 15 And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us,

saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

- Lydia was a person who sold _____ goods and was in the city of Philippi
- the Lord, by the power of the Holy Spirit, opened her heart and she _____ the message of Jesus Christ
- some Biblical scholars think that _____ took the gospel back to Thyatira and helped start this church
- it is also possible that _____ went to Thyatira to preach the gospel and to plant churches Acts 19:10 This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.

- we will break down the section of Revelation 2:18-29 as follows:

- 1) (2:18) Christ Described
- 2) (2:19) Christ Commends
- 3) (2:20-23) Christ Confronts
- 4) (2:24-25) Christ Commands
- 5) (2:26-29) Christ Promises

1) (2:18) Christ Described

(2:18) "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

- every church addressed in Revelation has an angel and that _____ is the representative for that church

'The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

- Jesus in Revelation 2:18 is described in three ways

a) Son of God

- Jesus is addressed as the _____ of God and this means that Jesus is _____ with God and thus Jesus is God

- in the gospel of John, Jesus' dispute with the Jews helps us understand that being the Son of God means that you are God

John 5:17-18 But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working." 18 This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself _____ with God.

b) Jesus has eyes like a flame of _____

- the eyes of Jesus being flames of fire reveals that Jesus is a _____ God but this also means that Jesus is a judge who punishes sin
- fire in the book of Revelation symbolizes _____ and judgment
- this would also _____ the church that Jesus can see in the dark places in the city of Thyatira

c) Jesus has _____ that are like burnished bronze

- the people of Thyatira would have been very familiar with bronze since there were many metal workers in the city
- Jesus having feet of bronze reveals that He is majestic but also _____

- Jesus has already been described with fire and bronze in the early part of the book of Revelation Revelation 1:14-15 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

- _____ is holy, pure, majestic and God!

2) (2:19) Christ Commends

(2:19) "I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first.

- Jesus "knows" because He is the all-knowing God who _____ among the 7 golden lampstands, who are the churches

- Jesus knows all that is _____ on with this church

a) their works

- the Thyatira church was active in doing the _____ of the Lord
- this was a church of _____ and not watchers with regards to the things of the Lord

b) their love

- the Thyatira church displayed not only a _____ for the Lord but this church also displayed a love for _____ other
- they knew the precious truth of the gospel; that Jesus _____ us first by going to the cross in place of us
- the love Christ motivated them to _____ one another

1 John 4:18-19 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. 19 We love because he first loved us.

c) their faith

- the Thyatira church had confidence in Jesus Christ
- they _____ Christ and what He had accomplished on the Cross

d) their service

- the Thyatira church did not come to church to be served, but they _____ one another in love
- they saw the service of _____ and they served each other
- they were not looking for what they could get out of church, they were looking for how they could _____ fellow believers

e) their patient endurance

- the Thyatira church had to endure persecution from a culture that did ___ tolerate Christianity
- the Christians in Thyatira would have _____ with the anti-Christian culture that would have dominated their city
- this church was _____ to Christ even in the midst of the persecution they faced

f) their works

- the works they are doing _____ exceed what they were doing at the start
 - this church had progressed in _____
 - they were doing more of the work of the Lord than when they had first come to Christ
- the Thyatira church was faithful but they, just like the rest of us, had issues of sin and they needed to _____

3) (2:20-23) Christ Confronts

(2:20) 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.

- Jesus knows the _____ that the Thyatira church is doing but Jesus also knows the _____
 - Jesus has one thing against this church they were _____ ing the sin and the influence of a woman named Jezebel
 - She is called Jezebel because she _____ s the Old Testament Jezebel
- Jezebel is talked about in the book of 1 and 2 _____
- she was the wife of Ahab and she _____ Ahab to do many wicked things
 - one of those _____ things was the execution of Naboth so that Ahab could have his vineyard (1 Kings 21)

- Jezebel was committed to the worship of Baal and Asherah
- we see this by the large quantity of committed servants of _____ gods during the reign of Ahab and Jezebel

1 Kings 18:19 Now therefore send and gather all Israel to me at Mount Carmel, and the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table." (1Ki 18:19 ESV)

- the worship of Asherah would have included _____ immorality and idolatry
 - we see Jezebel described as a person engaged in sexual immorality and _____
- 2 Kings 9:22 And when Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" He answered, "What peace can there be, so long as the whorings and the sorceries of your mother Jezebel are so _____?"

- in Revelation Jezebel symbolizes a person in the church who is embracing certain Christian _____ but who is also embracing some of the _____ of the false gods in Thyatira
- this female false prophet was trying to include Jesus with other false gods and _____ rituals

- in many ways the false prophet named Jezebel in Thyatira is similar to those who are teaching sexual immorality and idolatry in Pergamum connected to Balaam

(2:21-23) I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. ²² 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, ²³ and I will strike her children dead.

- many people reading this might not think that Jesus is gracious but let us be reminded of the first words that Jesus says here!

- Jesus has given time for Jezebel to _____
- but Jesus is gracious, merciful and _____, He gives time for Jezebel to repent of her wickedness

- but Jesus Christ is also _____ and hear how the Lord will respond to Jezebel and her disciples

- Jesus will throw Jezebel on a sickbed which means that Jesus will _____ her

- Jesus will also put _____ indulging in the sins of Jezebel into the great tribulation
- the great tribulation is God's _____ on sin
- they will experience this tribulation if they do not _____

- "repent" means to _____ your mind about sin
- humans apart from Jesus Christ are going in the direction of rebellion _____ God

- when you _____ it means that you change your direction from rebellion against God to _____ for your sin, sadness for your sin and confession of your sin to Jesus Christ who is gracious

- the book of Joel gives a very clear description of _____ ance in chapter 2
Joel 2:12-13 "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; 13 and rend your hearts and not your garments." _____ to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

- in repentance we turn _____ from wickedness and _____ to God who is gracious

- if Jezebel does not repent we see there will be _____ act of judgment against her, her children will be struck down by God

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.

- the Lord will make _____ His greatness to the churches

- the Lord reveals to the churches two important _____ about Himself

a) Jesus searches _____ and minds

- this means that Jesus is all-knowing

- this reminds me of David when he reflects upon how the Lord _____ everything in Psalm 139

Psalm 139:1-4 O LORD, you have searched me and known me! 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. 3 You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you _____ it altogether.

b) Jesus _____ to each according to their works

- Jesus is a Lord and a God who calls people to _____ for their actions

- the book of Revelation speaks a lot about the Lord Jesus _____ and punishing
Revelation 20:12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done.

Revelation 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.

- Jesus is a holy God who is _____, even in His judgments

4) (2:24-25) Christ Commands

(2:24) 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.

- Jesus does not want to _____ this congregation with another command or exhortation but one

- Jesus knows what they have gone through and Jesus knows that they do indeed have faith, love and _____

(2:25) Only hold fast what you have until I come.

- but Jesus gives them one last _____ that they hold fast to the Lord until He comes again

- like I said last week we are _____ by grace and kept by grace, but we are commanded to grasp and _____ onto Jesus Christ

- we are called to persevere with the Lord _____ Jesus comes again

5) (2:26-29) Christ Promises

(2:26-29) The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations,²⁷ 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.²⁸ And I will give him the morning star.²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

- Jesus gives two _____ to those who are victorious and who keep the words of Christ

a) They will reign with Christ

- this is a wonderful blessing that we do not think a lot about

- Jesus Christ will _____ in the New Heavens and _____ and those of us who are in Christ will reign with Christ

- what a blessing it will be to partake in the reign of Christ and to _____ His rule

b) They will receive the morning star

- the Christian will receive the morning _____, who is Jesus Christ, as is described later in Revelation

Revelation 22:16 "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright _____ star."

- the biggest blessing of being a Christian is that we possess _____

- Jesus is our _____ and He is our Saviour
- we _____ to Christ and that is a wonderful blessing

Application

1) See the _____ of Christ

- this address to the Thyatira church is just packed with amazing truths about _____ Christ
- in Revelation 2:18 Jesus has “eyes like a flame of fire” and his “feet are like burnished bronze”, this shows that Jesus is a holy and _____ God
- in Revelation 2:21 Jesus is _____ because He gives time for Jezebel to repent
- in Revelation 2:22 Jesus is _____ and will punish sin
- in Revelation 2:23 Jesus searches hearts and minds because He is the all-_____ God
- the Lord Jesus will repay each person according to what they have done
- in Revelation 2:24 Jesus is going to _____ again
- Jesus came to save at His 1st coming

John 12:47 If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.

- Jesus went to the cross to bear the punishment of sin and give _____ to sinners
- but Jesus will come _____ and judge the living and the dead
- in Revelation 2:26-27 Jesus will reign over all the nations in His coming kingdom and His people will _____ with Him

- Jesus Christ is all-knowing
- Jesus Christ is _____ and majestic
- Jesus Christ is coming back again to examine the living and the _____
- Jesus Christ _____ from sin a people who will belong to Him and they will reign with Him forever

- the personal well-being of people in North America is at an all-time low
- people are more suicidal than ever before and people are more depressed than ever before
- and yet they do not want to come and experience the grace of Jesus Christ

- if you are a Christian today, _____ yourself that Jesus is your Lord and remind yourself of all the wonderful blessings you have in Jesus Christ that are mentioned in this passage
- if you are in Christ you _____ to Christ and you will not only spend eternity with Christ but you will also reign with Christ

- if you are outside of Jesus Christ know that your _____ will be the same as Jezebel
- you need to _____ in the person and work of Jesus Christ to be saved from this fate
- you need Jesus Christ to _____ with your sin once for all!
- Praise the Lord Jesus is ready to _____ all the evil you have ever committed

- you can be forgiven and restored to a right relationship with God

Hebrews 10:17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

- what a promise that can be yours in Christ _____

2) See the Promises of Christ

- the promises of this world will _____ deliver

- think about all the products that you bought that you hoped that would make your life easier and they didn't

- many products make huge promises and the only promise you can guarantee is that you will be taking it back for warranty or an exchange

- but Jesus Christ is faithful and He gives to His people the _____ of knowing Him and belonging to Him

- as well we have the promise of reigning with Christ in His future _____

- wow what a joy and what a _____ that will be

- because of these wonderful promises let us never _____ sin or become immune to sin in our lives

- let us put to _____ all of our sin by the power of the Holy Spirit

- hear how Peter exhorts us to live a holy life till the coming of Christ

2 Peter 3:11-12 Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, 12 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn!

- Let us by God's grace, live lives of _____, as we anticipate the coming of Christ where we will reign with Him and enjoy Him forever

Coming UP


Oct 16 Revelation 2:18-29 - Thyatira

Oct 23 Revelation 3:1-6 - Sardis

Oct 30 Guest Speaker

Nov 6 Revelation 3:7-13 - Philadelphia

Nov 13 Revelation 3:14-22 - Laodicea



**BEHOLD,
I AM COMING SOON,
BRINGING MY REWARD WITH ME,
TO REPAY
EACH ONE
FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE.**

REVELATION 22:12

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