



#SEVENCHURCHES

THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION





#SEVENCHURCHES

TOLERANCE BY TRADE

REVELATION 2:18-29

@JEREMIAHVIK





STRUCTURED LETTERS

- *An address to a particular church*
- *A "Revealing" of Jesus*
- *Jesus KNOWS the conditions of the church*
- *Gives a verdict based on condition*
- *What He Wants THEM to do about it*
- *What he wants the CHURCH to do*
- *Gives a promise*





AS WE LISTEN TO WHAT JESUS HAS TO SAY TO EACH OF THE SEVEN CHURCHES, WE RECOGNIZE THAT IN EACH LETTER, HE HAS SOMETHING TO SAY TO THE CHURCH TODAY.



Revelation 2:18-29

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.



Revelation 2:18-29

²¹ I 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. ²³ I 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



Revelation 2:18-29

(‘deeper truths,’ as they call them—depths of Satan, actually). I will ask nothing more of you ²⁵ except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come. ²⁶ To all who are victorious, who obey me to the very end, To them I will give authority over all the nations. ²⁷ They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots. ²⁸ They 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.





THE CITY OF THYATIRA



- *On a busy trade route about 38 miles SE of Pergamum*
- *Modern day Akhisar, Turkey*
- *Prosperous town known for its trade guilds*
- *The city was famous for its dyes, especially purple*
- *A major cult of the pagan god Apollo (son of Zeus)*





THE CHURCH AT THYATIRA



- *Lydia, “the seller of purple” mentioned in Acts 16*
- *Returned to Thyatira after her conversion, may have been instrumental in starting the church*
- *The trade guilds were deep in idolatry, and the church represented a threat.*





CHARACTER OF JESUS

Vs. 18 This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze...





CHARACTER OF JESUS

Vs. 18 This is the message from **the Son of God**, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze...

- ***The full authority of the Trinity***





CHARACTER OF JESUS

Vs. 18 This is the message from the Son of God, whose **eyes are like flames of fire**, whose feet are like polished bronze...

- ***The full authority of the Trinity***
- ***All seeing, all knowing. Nothing is hidden.***





CHARACTER OF JESUS

Vs. 18 This is the message from the Son of God, whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose **feet are like polished bronze...**

- ***The full authority of the Trinity***
- ***All seeing, all knowing. Nothing is hidden.***
- ***Full-on judgement mode!***





COMMENDATION OF THE CHURCH

Vs. 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.

- **Works** – *they were a church of action*
- **Love** – *they genuinely cared about people, almost to a fault*
- **Faith** – *their actions were motivated by their faith in Christ*
- **Service** – *they were involved in ministry and helping others*
- **Perseverance** – *they were committed and faithful*
- **Growth** – *they were noticeably becoming better at what they were doing*





JUST BECAUSE YOU ARE DOING A LOT OF GOOD THINGS, DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE LIVING IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD.





CRITICISM OF THE CHURCH

Vs. 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.





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

Vs. 20

You are **permitting** that woman—that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to **lead my servants astray**.





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

***BAD THEOLOGY WILL ULTIMATELY
TRANSLATE INTO UNGODLY BEHAVIOR.***





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

...there will be false teachers among you who will cleverly teach destructive heresies and even deny the Master who bought them. In this way, they will bring sudden destruction on themselves. Many will follow their evil teaching and shameful immorality. And because of these teachers, the way of truth will be slandered. 2 PETER 2:1-2





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

AS A FOLLOWER OF JESUS, YOU DEPEND ON GOD'S TRUTH TO INFORM YOUR DECISIONS. BUT WHEN THE TRUTH IS COMPROMISED, YOUR DECISION-MAKING PROCESS IS CORRUPTED.





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

Timothy, guard what God has entrusted to you. Avoid godless, foolish discussions with those who oppose you with their so-called knowledge. Some people have wandered from the faith by following such foolishness. 1
TIMOTHY 6:20





YOU CANNOT TOLERATE FALSE TEACHING

“Beware of those who teach another Gospel, especially if they tell you everything you want to hear and lead you toward ways of living and thinking that earn applause from the world.” -JOHN COOPER





YOU CAN'T LET CULTURE DETERMINE YOUR MORALS

Vs. 20

She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols.





YOU CAN'T LET CULTURE DETERMINE YOUR MORALS

IF YOU ARE NOT CONSTANTLY OPERATING BY GOD'S HOLY STANDARDS, YOU WILL BE HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY THE CULTURE AND EVENTUALLY ADOPT A NEW SET OF STANDARDS.





YOU CAN'T LET CULTURE DETERMINE YOUR MORALS

See to it that there is no one who takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception in accordance with human tradition, and with the elementary principles of the world, rather than in accordance with Christ.

COLOSSIANS 2:8





YOU CAN'T LET CULTURE DETERMINE YOUR MORALS

THE WESTERN CHURCH IS BECOMING A CHURCH THAT IS MORE CONCERNED WITH SOCIAL AND CULTURAL ISSUES THAN THE FOUNDATIONAL TRUTHS OF SCRIPTURE.





COMPROMISE HAS SEVERE CONSEQUENCES

Vs. 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.





COMPROMISE HAS SEVERE CONSEQUENCES

GOD WILL NOT ALLOW SIN TO GO UNCHECKED, ESPECIALLY IN HIS CHURCH. WHERE THERE IS NO REPENTANCE, THERE WILL BE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES.





COMPROMISE HAS SEVERE CONSEQUENCES

But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. ROMANS 1:18





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

Vs. 24-25

“But I also have a message for the rest of you in Thyatira who have not followed this false teaching... I will ask nothing more of you except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come.





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

IN THIS POSTMODERN CULTURE THAT IS REDEFINING RIGHT AND WRONG, BOTH WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE CHURCH, THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN A BELIEVER WHO HOLDS FAST TO BIBLICAL TRUTH.





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

HEBREWS 10:23





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

Vs. 28

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





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

Vs. 28

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

- **AUTHORITY** – *they will operate in God's power*
- **MORNING STAR** – *Jesus' own presence will be with them. "I am the bright Morning Star" (Rev. 22:16)*





YOU MUST HOLD ONTO THE TRUTH

WHEN YOU ELEVATE THE TRUTH OF GOD'S WORD, YOU OPERATE IN GOD'S AUTHORITY AND YOU SERVE AS JESUS' AMBASSADOR FOR TRUTH.





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