

REVELATION

THE
UNVEILING
OF JESUS

Revelation 2:18-29

+INTRODUCTION

Thyatira was a politically and culturally marginalized city, finding its identity economically, with guilds dealing in metals and fabric (Acts 16:14). Guilds celebrated their patron deities in periodic festivities, so Christians may have been tempted toward the message of a “prophetess” who advocated participation in illicit sex and food sacrificed to idols, both staples of the social scene. (excerpt from: ESV Study Bible)

Even though this church excelled in it's, love faith, and works the area which earned Jesus' stern rebuke was in their tolerance for sexual immorality. The culture which the believers in Thyatira found themselves was not unlike ours. Sexually charged temptations confronted them on many fronts, as they do us. Jesus wants His church to be pure, and when our God-given sexuality is abused + perverted, it becomes destructive, leaving us and those we ‘use’, with a deep sense of defilement and guilt.

+READ (Revelation 2:18-29)

Read this passage out loud together as a group/family before asking any of the below questions.

+OBSERVATION/INTERPRETATION

How does Paul's commendation of the Colossian church in Colossians 1:3-8 compare to the commendation of the church at Thyatira?

A woman mentioned by a derogatory manner named Jezebel was spoken of. Based upon these verses what do you learn about this evil woman? 1 Kings 16:30-31, 18:4, 18:19, 19:1-2, 21:25-26, 2 Kings 9:22.

As you read through each of the 7 letters to the churches observe how each follows or deviates from the basic pattern below:

1. Address (what is the letter addressing?)
2. A title/s of Jesus (what title from chapter 1 is repeated here?)
3. Commendation (what does Jesus commend them for?)
4. Criticism (what does Jesus criticize them for?)
5. Counsel (how does Jesus counsel them?)
6. Command (what command/s does Jesus give to them to follow?)
7. Promise (what is promised to them?)

+APPLICATION

The Church in Ephesus was strong when it came to resisting false doctrine and immorality, but weak on love (Rev. 2:2-4). The Church in Thyatira was strong on love but weak on resisting false doctrine and immorality (Rev. 2:19-20). Which of these if either are you more like? What can you do about this?

There appears to be a hint within in the text that the one, who “rules their sinful desires”, will be entrusted with ‘ruling greater things in the next life’. How can we be victorious in conquering even our own-selves, especially when our flesh is so strong, and is often one of our greatest enemies.

+MEMORY VERSE

Rev 2:26 The one who conquers and keeps my works until the end, I will give authority over the nations

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