

REVELATION

The Things That Are
Letters to the 7 churches
Thyatira

The Church

Intro:

Four things to remember as we go through these letters to the 7 churches:

- 1. Thyatira starts the Second block of letters.
- 2. The first group of churches Kept the faith and was not over run with sin
- This second block brings in the mention of Christ's Millennial reign.
- 4. As we go through these churches we'll see their problems becoming more Deadly to the body.

Intro:

Though all churches are different, one thing they should be alike is the Pursuit of Holiness.

The council at Jerusalem gave Paul only two requirements to give his Gentile converts:

- 1. Stay away from Idol activity,
- 2. Stay away from Sexual sin Acts 15:28-29.

The City

Built on the flat it boasted no natural defenses. It was on the border between Lydia and Mysia. It was named "Thyatira", which means, "Daughter" by Seleucus, A former general of Alexander the Great.

Its primary function was to delay any Invading army on the way to Pergamum. It was not a religious center as it had few Major gods; the most important one was Apollo.

It's claim to fame rested in its many labor Guilds Thyatira was known as a major city of Commerce

The Church

Like Smyrna and Pergamum, not much is known regarding When or by Whom the church was started. It was possibly started by Lydia, a seller of Purple who was a resident of Thyatira and was converted by Paul. (Acts. 16:13-15), or by Paul's Evangelistic preaching in Ephesus, Acts 19:10.

The Correspondent (vs. 18b)

- 1. Taken from John's Vision in Rev. 1:12-16
- 2. The "Son of God" only used here. It speaks of His Deity.
- 3. "Eyes like a flame of fire" speak of His Omniscience.
- 4. "Feet like polished bronze" speak of His Purity.

The Commendation (vs. 19)

- 1. "I know your Works" speaks to His Omniscience.
- 2. Thyatira was commended for her Love, Faith, Service and Perseverance.
- 3. "Your later Works exceed the first" means the church was growing. They looked Prosperous on the outside, but were Dying to Sin on the inside.

The Concerns vs. 20-23

The tolerating of Heretical teaching and sin was the church's main problem. They Followed the teaching of a Pagan.

A threefold response from the Lord:

- 1. "Jezebel" will experience the Second death,
- Her followers will experience severe Chastisement from the Lord if they do not Repent,
- 3. He will kill her Children, or Disciples.

The Correction vs.- 24-25

Again, Repentance is the only cure to sin. There are also two points here;

- 1. A word of Encouragement to those who have not fallen to the Deep things of Satan,
- 2. He identifies real Christians as those who are Obedient to His word.

To teach that which is Contrary to the word of God is delving into the Deep things of Satan.

The Council- vs. 26-29

Jesus is promising two things to the overcomer:

- That they will rule with Him in His Millennial reign, Rev. 20:4
- 2. He promises all believers the "Morning Star", an obvious Reference to Himself, **Rev. 22:16**