

Seven Churches Of Asia Series:

Thyatira: The Corrupt Church

Rev. 2:18-29

Introduction:

- A. Thyatira:
 - 1. East and a little south of Pergamos.
 - 2. Famous for its magnificent temple of Diana.
 - 3. Jezebel may have been a former devotee of that temple who had attached herself to church.
- B. Let us notice the various parts of this letter:

Discussion:

I. The Description of Christ In This Letter.

- A. "The Son Of God."
 - 1. God's gift to man. (John 3:16)
 - 2. God's latter day spokesman. (Heb. 1:1,2)
 - 3. The Way to the Father. (John 14:6)
 - 4. Man's Saviour (Matt. 1:21)
- B. "Eyes like a flame fire" (Heb. 4:13)
- C. "Feet like fine brass."
 - 1. Dreadful to sinners.
 - 2. Beautiful to saints.

II. The Condition Of The Church At Thyatira.

- A. Her good points:
 - 1. "Love" (Gal. 5:6; 1 Cor. 13)
 - a. Ephesus strong on doctrine, weak on love
 - b. Thyatira strong on love, weak on doctrine.
 - 2. "Faith" - With it there is ritualism and mere social service in religion. (cf. Heb. 11)
 - 3. "Service" or "ministry."
 - 4. "Patience" or endurance.
 - 5. Last works great than first.
 - a. Had grown in works.
 - b. Should have grown in spirituality. (1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Cor. 4:16)
- B. Her bad point. (v. 20) - "You allow that woman Jezebel to teach"
 - 1. Tolerated her - likely would said, "we don't agree with her, but..."
 - 2. Should have withdrawn from her. (1 Cor. 5:2-13; 2 Thess. 3:6)
 - 3. Taught false doctrine which led to false practice - like man today on divorce and remarriage.

III. The Advice To The Church At Thyatira.

- A. To Jezebel, her followers.
 - 1. Had given her time to repent, now judgment was due. (cf. 2 Pet. 3:9)
 - 2. Would cast her into sickbed and kill her children - as object lesson to all churches.
- B. To each one of you according to your works - would have to answer for their part.
- C. To the rest at Thyatira.
 - a. I will put no other burden.
 - b. Hold fast till I come- Jesus will come again.
 - c. Overcome and keep works to the end. (vv. 26-28)

Conclusion:

- 1. Let us be longsuffering as needed, but not be too tolerant.
- 2. Let us remember that we can be faithful, even if others in church are not.