

“Thyatira: The Immoral Church”

Revelation 2:18-29

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Introduction:

1. The Congregation: the Church in Thyatira (2:18)

“The Son of God who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze”

2. The Commendation: ongoing progress (2:19)

“you love and faith and service and perseverance... greater than at first”

3. The Condemnation: tolerance and immorality (2:20-25)

“you tolerate the woman...who teaches...immorality...I will kill her children with pestilence”

“Jezebel killed the prophets of the LORD” (1 Kings 18:13)

“...the harlotries of...Jezebel and her witchcraft are so many” (2 Kings 9:22)

4. **The Invitation: vice-regents with Christ (2:26-29)**

“And he who overcomes...TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON”

“the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come” (Daniel 7:18)

“And You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth” (Revelation 5:10)

“And I saw thrones and they sat upon them, and judgment was given to them...and reigned with Christ for a thousand years” (Revelation 20:4)

“When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory” (Colossians 3:4)

Summary

Ephesus:

Strengths:

Hard-working, persevering, discerning, theologically sound; practiced church discipline

Sins:

Lost their priority of love and devotion to God; dead orthodoxy

Smyrna:

Strength:

Remained faithful under persecution

Sin:

None

Pergamum:

Strength:

Remained loyal to Christ and did not deny Him during persecution

Sins:

Tolerated false teachers; tolerated sexual sin; tolerated idolatry