

Thyatira - Laboring Yet Libertine

Revelation 2:18-29

Introduction: The fourth church to receive a message from the risen Christ was Thyatira. This church was known for its works to gain favor before God and its morally compromising value system.

A. Christ's Appearance to the Church

Our Lord is pictured as Sovereign with eyes like fire and feet like brass. Truly Christ is both discerning and judging.

B. Characteristics of the City

Thyatira means *city of Lydia* or *the sacrifice of perfume*. This city featured the worship of Apollo (the sun god) and impacted the city with pagan sacrifices, idolatry, and immorality.

C. Characteristics of the Church

The church may have been founded by one of Paul's converts, Lydia. This hard working church tolerated the libertine teachings of Jezebel! It can be compared both with ancient Israel during the kingdom period of King Ahab and with modern Israel that has become infiltrated by rabbinic false teaching. Prophetically this church represents the Papal Church from 590 AD to 1517 AD.

D. Compliment to the Church

Christ compliments the church's works, love, service, and patience.

E. Complaint to the Church

Jesus complains that this church is in doctrinal and moral error.

F. Counsel to the Church

Christ counsels the church to repent and appeals to a remnant to hold fast until He comes!

G. Covenant with the Church

Our Lord promises to give unto the overcomers the Morning Star.



Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God – Romans 10:17