

The 9th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, July 22, 2018

“Letters to the 7 Churches ~ Thyatira”

Revelation 2:18-29



JESUS' DESCRIPTION

“And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame, and whose feet are like burnished bronze...” (Revelation 2:18)

The first part of this description is about Jesus' _____.

Jesus calls Himself “Son of God” for 2 reasons:

• **To remind the church of His:**

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” (Matthew 28:18)

• **To remind those outside the church of His:**

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.” (Colossians 1:15-17)

The second part of this description is about Jesus' _____.

- Eyes like fire are a reference to Jesus'

“I am watching them closely, and I see every sin. They cannot hope to hide from me.” (Jeremiah 16:17)

- Feet of burnished bronze are a reference to Jesus' **trampling on something** =

JESUS' 4 COMPLIMENTS

“I know your works—your love, faith, service, and patient endurance.” (Rev 2:19)

#1. Jesus commends the church in Thyatira for their _____.

Agape =

philia =

eros =

“This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you. There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:12-13)

“...So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.” (1 Corinthians 13:3)

#2. Jesus commends the church in Thyatira for their _____.
pistis =

“It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists and that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6)

#3. Jesus commends the church in Thyatira for their _____.
diakonia =

“What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, and you say, ‘Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well’—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless. Now someone may argue, ‘Some people have faith; others have good deeds.’ But I say, ‘How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds.’” (James 2:14-18)

diakonia =

ergon =

#4. Jesus commends the church in Thyatira for their _____.
hypomone =

“Dear brothers and sisters, be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen. You, too, must be patient. Take courage, for the coming of the Lord is near.” (James 5:7-8)

JESUS' COMPLAINT

“But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman—that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet—to lead my servants astray. She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols.” (Revelation 2:20)

Jesus criticized them for _____ **false teaching**.

3 ELEMENTS OF JEZEBEL'S' TEACHING

- **It claimed _____ could be _____.**

“What sorrow for those who say that evil is good and good is evil, that dark is light and light is dark, that bitter is sweet and sweet is bitter.” (Isaiah 5:20)

- **It went against the _____ of God.**

“You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.” (Deuteronomy 4:2)

- **It deluded people into thinking they were _____.**

“Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise in the ways of this world, you should give up that wisdom in order to become really wise. The wisdom of this world is nonsense in God's sight. That's why Scripture says, “God catches the wise in their cleverness.” (I Corinthians 3:18-19)

“For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.” (2 Timothy 4:3-4)

Cheap grace =

“Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. They will reject the truth and chase after myths. But you should keep a clear mind in every situation...” (2 Timothy 4:2-5)

True prophet =

False prophet =

2 questions to determine if something is from God:

JESUS' COMMAND

Jezebel and her children (followers) must _____ or suffer the _____.

“But I also have a message for the rest of you in Thyatira who have not

followed this false teaching (‘deeper truths,’ as they call them—depths of Satan, actually). I will ask nothing more of you except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come.” (Revelation 2:24-25)

krateo =

tolerance =

“To all who are victorious, who obey me to the very end, To them I will give authority over all the nations. They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots. They will have the same authority I received from my Father, and I will also give them the morning star!” (Revelation 2:26-28)

The Promise =

Morning Star =

**Do you have ears to hear or are you too distracted
by the noise of the world?**

God is speaking—are you listening?



QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. How do you define tolerance? How do you define truth?
2. What is the authority of Scripture? What role should it have in the church and in the life of a believer?
3. When you are faced with a moral decision, do you usually turn to Scripture or to something/someone else? If so, what?
4. Have you ever struggled to reconcile what the Bible teaches and what you believe? If so, how? Do you dismiss biblical teachings because they seem to be “out dated,” “we know better,” or they don't line up with popular opinion? What does this say about your view of Scripture?
6. In our world, tolerance is a positive term. However, it is most often used in the Bible as a negative term. Why do you think God has concerns about what we tolerate?
7. When we don't tolerate something we are often perceived as rejecting someone. Is this true? Is this God's plan? Is it possible to stand for righteousness and love someone at the same time? If so, how do we do it?