

Difficult Days, Part 8: The State of the Church
Allowing False Doctrine to Take Hold
Revelation 2:18-29

I. Jesus, the One who sees everything in His people, examined the church at Thyatira (vs. 18-20).

A. He commended those at Thyatira for the things that they were doing right.

1. They were performing good works.
2. There were characterized as loving, serving, faithful, and patient.
3. They were doing more works than they were at first.

B. He confronted those at Thyatira for the wrong that they tolerated to take place.

1. They had allowed a false teacher to teach in the church.
2. The false teacher had made an impact on Christ's followers.

(1 Kings 16:30-33; Matthew 18:6; 1 Timothy 2:12; Hebrews 4:13; James 4:17; Revelation 1:12-16)

II. Jesus addressed each of the individuals at Thyatira according to their condition (vs. 21-25).

A. For all who sin, God exhorts them to repent.

B. For those who refuse to repent of their sin, God will bring judgment.

(John 3:19)

III. Jesus encouraged the church at Thyatira to heed His invitation to follow Him (vs. 26-29).

A. Jesus will grant them a position of authority to rule.

B. Jesus promised to grant them the morning star.

(2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 22:16)

Scripture References and Notes

Revelation 1:12-16 (NASB)

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands; ¹³ and in the middle of the lampstands *I saw* one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash. ¹⁴ His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; **and His eyes were like a flame of fire.** ¹⁵ **His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace,** and His voice *was* like the sound of many waters. ¹⁶ In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.

Hebrews 4:13 (NKJV)

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things *are* naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we *must give* account.

service [διακονία (diakonia)]

- waiting at table; in a wider sense: service, ministration.
- *ministry*; active service, done with a willing (voluntary) attitude.

faithful [πίστις (pistis)]

- faith, belief, trust, confidence; fidelity, faithfulness.
- (from *peithō*, "*persuade*, be persuaded") – properly, *persuasion* (be *persuaded*, come to trust); *faith*.

patience [ὑπομονή (hupomoné)]

- a remaining behind, a patient enduring
- endurance, steadfastness, patient waiting for.

1 Kings 16:30-33 (NKJV)

³⁰ Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who *were* before him. ³¹ And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him. ³² Then he set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. ³³ And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

thou sufferest [ἀφήμι (aphíemi)]

- to send away, leave alone, permit
- (a) I send away, (b) I let go, release, permit to depart, (c) I remit, forgive, (d) I permit, suffer.

1 Timothy 2:12 (NKJV)

And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence.

James 4:17 (NASB)

Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.

to seduce [πλανάω (planaó)]

- to cause to wander, to wander
I lead astray, deceive, cause to wander.
- properly, go astray, get off-course; to *deviate* from the correct path (circuit, course), *roaming* into error, *wandering*; (passive) be misled.

Matthew 18:6 (NKJV)

“But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

John 3:19 (KJV)

And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

Revelation 22:16 (KJV)

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

2 Peter 1:19-21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.