



“Thyatira’s Condemnation”

Revelation 2:20-23

June 15, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:

19 ‘I know your deeds, and your love and faith and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first. 20 But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. 22 Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. 24 But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you. 25 Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come. 26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; 27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star. 29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’

1. Christ’s condemnation for the churches _____ of false teaching.

“But I have [this] against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit [acts of] immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.” v20.

1) Jezebel is likely a _____ name used of a prominent woman in Thyatira.

The characteristics of the influential woman...

(1) She falsely _____ to speak the word of God as a prophetess.

(2) She _____ and leads _____ into false doctrine.

False teaching leads Christ’s “bond servants”...

✳ ...into _____ world systems.

✳ ...to commit _____.

(3) These characteristics _____ her with the person of Jezebel.

2) The church is to be _____ the world but not _____ the world.

(1) The business _____ required the participation of all their members.

🔊 Participation meant revelrous festivals, eating meat sacrificed to idols and sexual orgies.

(2) Perhaps the prophetess taught an _____ view of Christian living.

🔊 "1 What shall we say then? **Are we to continue in sin so that grace may increase?** 2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?" [Rom 6:1-2 NASB95]

🔊 "8 And why not [say] (as we are slanderously reported and as some claim that we say), "**Let us do evil that good may come**"? Their condemnation is just." [Rom 3:8 NASB95].

(3) Christ’s bond servants are to _____ the world.

🔊 "4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. 5 Who is the one who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?" [1Jo 5:4-5]

- ☞ "Realizing the trade guild dominance of the economic life of the city, the Christian convert faced the questionable decision of compromising his stand at least enough to participate in a common meal dedicated to a pagan deity (Mounce).
- ☞ The particular thrust of Jezebel's teaching was probably, "Since an idol has no real existence (cf. 1 Cor. 8:4), you need not hesitate to go along with the simple requirements of the trade guild and participate in a common meal dedicated to some idol" (Mounce).
- ☞ They [Christians] need not fear pagan immorality and sacrificial practices, because men and women in whom the Spirit dwells know that the flesh cannot defile the spirit.

3) Warning against false teaching is _____ given in scripture.

(1) Love is inseparable from the ethical and moral standard of God's _____.

- ☞ "9 And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; 11 having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which [comes] through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." [Phl 1:9-11 NASB95]
- ☞ "9 For this reason also, since the day we heard [of it,] we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, 10 so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please [Him] in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;" [Col 1:9-10 NASB95]

Charles Ryrie's quote

"Healthy doctrine or healthy theology is always expected to result in holy living.
Healthy theology is expressed not only in creed but in fruitful living,
and holy living must be based on healthy theology."

(2) Love is intolerant of _____.

- ☞ "1 But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves. 2 Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them the way of the truth will be maligned; 3 and in [their] greed they will exploit you with false words; their judgment from long ago is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep." [2Pe 2:1-3 NASB95]
- ☞ "2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;" [2Ti 4:2-3 KJV]
- ☞ "9 holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict." [Tit 1:9 NASB9]

(3) Paul gave a final warning to the _____ at Ephesus .

- ☞ "29 "I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them." [Act 20:29-30 NASB95]

(4) Love is _____.

- ☞ "15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "**Feed my lambs.**" [Jhn 21:15 ESV]
- ☞ "16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, [son] of John, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "**Shepherd My sheep.**" [Jhn 21:16 NASB95]

2. The consequences of their _____.

"21 'I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality. 22 'Behold, I will throw her on a bed [of sickness,] and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. 23 'And I will kill her children with pestilence, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds." v21-23.

“Thyatira’s Condemnation”

Revelation 2:20-23

June 15, 2025

1) God’s love and mercy delays _____ for wickedness.

"21 'I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her immorality.' v21

The prophetess was...

(1) ...given _____ for repentance.

- 🔊 "4 Or do you think lightly of the riches of His kindness and tolerance and patience, not knowing that **the kindness of God leads you to repentance?**" [Rom 2:4 NASB95]
- 🔊 "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and **you were unwilling.** [Mat 23:37 NASB95]

(2) ...guilty of both _____ adultery and literal _____.

- 🔊 "22 When Joram saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" And he answered, "What peace, so long as **the harlotries of your mother Jezebel** and her witchcrafts are so many?" [2Ki 9:22]
- 🔊 She [Jezebel] may be more famous for her promotion of idolatry, but she must have been guilty of practicing and promoting sexual immorality also. The Thyatiran Jezebel was adamant in her refusal to turn away from the same. [R. Thomas]

(3) ...enslaved by temporal _____ and _____ and the honor of position.

✳ She does not _____ to repent of her compulsion for sin.

- 🔊 "34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin." [Jhn 8:34 NASB95]
- **Pray that God’s Spirit will give you a hunger to love and _____ God.**
- 🔊 "9 For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things." [Psa 107:9 ESV]
- **Pray that your mind and will directs your hunger for the _____ of God.**
- 🔊 Every Christian will become at last what his desires have made him. We are all the sum total of our hungers. The great saints have all had thirsting hearts. Their cry has been, "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God..." Their longing after God all but consumed them; it propelled them onward and upward to heights toward which less ardent beliefs look with and entertain no hope of reaching." Miles Stanford, None But the Hungry Heart, 1-1
- 🔊 "If you feel the drawing of God within cherish it as you would cherish a great treasure. If you are aware of a deep hunger, if you are entering into a closer walk with Him, do not look upon it carelessly, nor treat it lightly. But if you do not feel the divine drawing and hunger for God, cry to Him that He will give it to you; and ever remember that the desire for hunger is the beginning of hunger, and that you cannot feed upon the Lord Jesus Christ until you are spiritually hungry."

2) Christ’s _____ is made according to the deeds.

"22 'Behold, I will throw her on a bed [of sickness,] and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds.' v22

(1) The pronouncement of _____ for the prophetess.

"22 'Behold, I will throw her on a bed [of sickness]..."

✳ Her physical _____ and her _____ will be violently taken.

- 🔊 The figure may be intended to contrast a sickbed with a bed of adultery [Beckwith]
- 🔊 The word for bed [kline, κλίνη] is a general term for bed but can mean a stretcher for a sick person.
- 🔊 "36 Therefore they returned and told him. And he said, "This is the word of the LORD, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'In the property of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; 37 and the corpse of Jezebel will be as dung on the face of the field in the property of Jezreel, so they cannot say, "This is Jezebel."'" [2Ki 9:36-37 NASB95]

✳ **Her spiritual end will be as _____ as her physical end.**

- 🔊 The word for cast [ballo, βάλλω] is often used with casting into hell as in... "29 'If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw[G906] it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown[G906] into hell.'" [Mat 5:29]
- 🔊 "11 'Your pomp [and] the music of your harps Have been **brought down to Sheol**; Maggots are spread out [as your bed] beneath you And worms are your covering.'" [Isa 14:11 NASB95]

✳ **Judgment for false prophets in the Old Testament was _____.**

- 🔊 "20 But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'" [Deu 18:20 ESV]

(2) The pronouncement of _____ for her followers...

"22 ...and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, 23 and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works." [Rev 2:22-23 ESV] v22-23

✳ **...alludes to the judgment that fell upon Jezebel's _____ of Baal.**

22 '... and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works

- 🔊 "19 Now therefore call to me all the prophets of Baal, all his worshipers and all his priests. Let none be missing, for I have a great sacrifice to offer to Baal. Whoever is missing shall not live." But Jehu did it with cunning in order to destroy the worshipers of Baal. ... 27 And they demolished the pillar of Baal, and demolished the house of Baal, and made it a latrine to this day. 28 Thus Jehu wiped out Baal from Israel." [2Ki 10:19, 27-28 ESV]
- 🔊 "24 Now therefore, [my] sons, listen to me, And pay attention to the words of my mouth. 25 Do not let your heart turn aside to her [the adulterer's] ways, Do not stray into her paths. 26 For many are the victims she has cast down, And numerous are all her slain. 27 Her house is the way to Sheol, Descending to the chambers of death." [Pro 7:24-27 NASB95]

✳ **...alludes to the judgement that fell upon the _____ of Ahab.**

23 and I will strike her children dead.

- 🔊 "7 And you shall strike down the house of Ahab your master, so that I may avenge on Jezebel the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD." [2Ki 9:7 ESV]

False teaching that is not repented of...

▶ **...brings _____ death and the _____ death for the prophetess and unbelievers.**

- 🔊 "14 Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire." [Rev 20:14 ESV]
- 🔊 "8 But as for the cowardly, the faithless, the detestable, as for murderers, the sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death." [Rev 21:8 ESV]

▶ **...brings loss of _____ and _____ death for believers.**

- 🔊 "15 If anyone's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire." [1Co 3:15 ESV]
- 🔊 "30 That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. 31 But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world." [1Co 11:30-32 ESV]
- 🔊 "16 If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life--to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. 17 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. 18 We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. ... 21 Little children, keep yourselves from idols." [1Jo 5:16-18, 21 ESV]