

# "The Corrupt Church"

The Church at Thyatira Revelation 2 : 18 - 29

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Pastor Joe's personal commentary is in brackets and modify words underlined with dots. You can find this passage in your Pew Bible on page 1192-1193.

## REVIEW FROM LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE:

- The church at Pergamum was "The Compromising Church."
- They compromised their moral standards by drifting into worldliness.
- If they repented, they would be given manna (physical needs), a white stone (spiritual needs) and a new name (eternal needs).
- We must never compromise our Christian standards.
- Jesus Christ is coming again to rescue those who believe in Him.



## 1. CHURCH—The Church at Thyatira.

Revelation 2:18, NIV84 - <sup>18</sup> "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:" [This letter is the longest of the seven, even though it was the smallest of the seven cities.]

## 2. CONFIRMATION—Christ is proclaimed the "Son of God."

Revelation 2:18, NIV84 - <sup>18</sup> "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God. [“Son of God”, a reference to Jesus being the Messiah; also a play on Apollo—the sun god. Apollo, a Roman and Greek god, was considered “the sun of gods”; Jesus was proclaimed the Son of God.] whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.”

## 3. COMMENDATION—Their works were growing.

Good works • Love • Service • Faith • Patience

Revelation 2:19, MSG - <sup>19</sup> "I see everything you're doing for me. Impressive! The love and the faith, the service and persistence. Yes, very impressive! You get better at it every day."

## 4. COMPLAINT—Idolatry and immorality—the great enemies of the church—were present.

Revelation 2:20, The Message - <sup>20</sup> "But why do you let that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet mislead my dear servants into Cross-denying, self-indulging religion?"

## 5. COMMAND—"Repent."

Revelation 2:21–22, NIV84 - <sup>21</sup> I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. <sup>22</sup> So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent...

## 5. COMFORT—Continue in your loyalty to God anticipating His return.

Revelation 2:24–27ff, NIV84 - <sup>24</sup> "Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you): <sup>25</sup> Only hold on to what you have until I come. <sup>26</sup> To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations..."



**WE MUST NEVER BECOME  
CORRUPTED IN OUR DOCTRINE!**

## Practical Insights from Revelation 2

1. We must become fiercely loyal to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. We must become fiercely loyal to God's \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We must become fiercely loyal to God's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We must become fiercely loving of God's \_\_\_\_\_.

As you review these first four messages to the churches, you can see the dangers that still exist for the people of God. Like Ephesus, we can be zealous and orthodox, but at the same time lose our devotion to Christ. Or, like Thyatira, our love can be increasing yet lacking in the kind of discernment that is necessary to keep the church pure. Like Pergamos and Thyatira, we may be so tolerant of evil that we grieve the Lord and invite His judgment...The Ephesian church was weakening in its love, yet faithful to judge false teachers; while the people in the assembly at Thyatira were growing in their love, but too tolerant of false doctrine. Both extremes must be avoided in the church. "Speaking the truth in love" is the biblical balance. Unloving orthodoxy and loving compromise are both unacceptable to God.

## **ANSWERS TO "THE CORRUPT CHURCH" MESSAGE**

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1. God
2. Word
3. Work
4. People