

THE UNVEILING OF JESUS CHRIST

"The Church In Satan's City"

Revelation 2:18-29

INTRODUCTION:

1. What defines a good church?
2. In each of the churches we have studied so far a similar pattern appears:
 - a) The **Commendable** qualities of the church marred by **carelessness!!!**
3. Therefore the carelessness has a negative effect on the positive.
 - a) Emphasis - ***The church that left its first love.***
 - b) Smyrna - ***The Persecuted Church***
 - c) Pergamum - ***The Compromising Church***

I. THE DESTINATION OF THE LETTER

1. Unlike some of the other cities Jesus addresses, Thyatira was not known for its Grandeur or its Culture or its Learning.
 - a) But it was known for its COMMERCE.
2. Thyatira was located in the VALLEY between 2 cities on one of the busiest trade routes running through Asia Minor.
3. Thyatira boasted numerous trade guilds.
 - a) These trade guilds were like unions that protected their workers and promoted their trade.
 - b) Some of their trades were: Bakers; Bronze workers; Clothiers; Cobblers; Weavers; Tanners; Dyers; potters and Others.

II. THE DESCRIPTIVE CHARACTER OF CHRIST description

A. THE SON OF GOD

1. Vs 18
 - a) ***"The words of the Son of God."***
2. **Son of God** emphasizes Christ's deity, and that He is one essence with the Father.
3. **Son of Man** views Jesus ability to sympathize with the needs, trials and temptations with His church.
 - a) ***Hebrews 4:14-15***

B. THE ALL SEEING GOD

1. Vs 18

a) *"who has eyes like a flame of fire"*

2. Jesus piercing vision sees all.

a) *Revelation 19:12*

3. God's knowledge of all things is mentioned often in scripture. (Omniscience)

a) *Jeremiah 11:20*

b) *John 2:24-25*

C. THE GOD OF JUSTICE

1. Vs 18

a) *"and whose feet are like burnished bronze"*

2. Look @ what God says to Israel when they sin.

a) *Deuteronomy 28:23-24*

b) *Revelation 2:23*

3. The same Jesus of the 1st century is the same Jesus today.

a) And it is that same Jesus who will judge not only the Church, but individual believers as well!!!

1) *2 Corinthians 5:10*

4. Christ is our loving compassionate friend and at the same time our JUDGE!!

a) *Romans 8:1*

III. JESUS DIAGNOSIS OF THE CHURCH

1. Vs 19

A. JESUS KNOWS OUR GOOD DEEDS

1. Vs 19

a) *"I know your works"*

2. Vs 19

a) *"and service"* or ministry

a) They served each other.

B. JESUS KNOWS OUR LOVE

1. VS 19

a) *"your love"*

2. *1 Corinthians 13:1-3*

3. *John 15:35*

C. JESUS KNOWS OUR LOYALTY

1. Vs 19

a) *"and faith"*

2. The Greek word "**Pistis**" means *"faithful"*

a) They were good finishers.

D. JESUS KNOWS OUR PATIENCE

1. Vs 19

a) *"and patient endurance"*

1) They were *"long-suffering"*

2. The word patience means to *"abide"* or *"remain under"*.

E. JESUS KNOWS OUR MATURITY

1. Vs 19

a) *"and that your latter works exceed the first"*

2. WOW!!! This was a Church maturing in the faith!!

IV. NOW THE CONDEMNATION OF THE CHURCH

1. Vs 20

a) *"but I have this against you"*

b) WOW!! *"That you tolerate the woman Jezabel"*

1) Obviously not the original Jezebel!

2. The devils strategy was and is to introduce evil into a church.

a) Sexual immorality.

b) Sexual immorality was a part of Pagan worship!!

3. *1 Kings 16:30-31*

4. Under these false gods religion was divorced from morality and sexuality was actually made part of worship.

5. There must have been this woman in the Thyatira Church who was promoting the same immoral lifestyle.

a) Claiming to be a prophetess.

VI. THE PRONOUNCEMENT OF JUDGMENT

A. TO THE JEZEBEL CULT

1. Vs 21-23

a) To Jezebel

1) Vs 21-22a

2. Vs 22b

a) Followers of Jezebel

3. Vs 23

a) The children of the followers of Jezebel.

B. TO THE CHRISTIANS

1. Vs 24-25

2, Jesus warned those following false teaching to repent.

a) And He delivered words of comfort to the rest who did not hold to Jezebel's teaching.

C. TO THE WINNERS

1. Vs 26-27

a) **First** - Those who conquer until the end will be given authority in the Kingdom!!

1) "**authority**" - means to shepherd and to promote holiness.

b) **Psalm 2:7-9**

2. Vs 28

a) **Secondly** - "**And I will give him the morning star.**"

1) This is no doubt a reference to Christ Himself.

CONCLUSION:

1. Vs 29