

3. What is the significance of the trade guilds (unions) in Thyatira? What did they require of their members? What would be the problem for professing believers in Jesus? Share ways that we face similar challenges here in Los Angeles and what we should do about it.
4. List what Jesus praises in Rev. 2:19. They appear to be a model church in so many ways. How is it possible for people with those qualities to be tolerating and/or practicing idolatry and immorality?
5. The false teacher in the church is a woman named (or called by John) “Jezebel.” Read 1 Kings 16:29-34; 18:3-4, 13, 19; 19:1-3; 21:1-25; 22:51-53; 2 Kings 9:1-10, 29-37. From what you have read about Jezebel in the Old Testament, why is that a fitting name to be applied to the woman in the church at Thyatira?
6. From the text in Rev. 2:18-29, what do you learn about God’s patience? Why is He patient? What does He desire? How severe will His judgment be when He stops being patient with sin?
7. Commentators have said, “*We cannot be saved by our deeds, but we can be condemned by our deeds.*” What does that mean? If we are true followers of Jesus, why won’t we be condemned by our deeds?
8. What are the “deep things of Satan”? How do we avoid Satan’s deception?
9. What does it mean to *overcome and keep Jesus’ deeds until the end* (v. 26)? When will overcomers have the *authority* Jesus promises? What is the *morning star*?
10. Instead of tolerating sin in our own lives or in the lives of others in the church, what should true believers do? What are some biblical ways to approach people that we know are practicing sin? (See Mt. 7:1-5; Gal. 6:1-2; Mt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5; 1 Thess. 5:14-15; 1 Tim. 5:19-25; Titus 3:10-11; 2 John 10-11).
11. Jesus ends with a challenge to listen to what the Spirit is saying. Take some time right now to PRAY. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas of your life where sin has been tolerated. Confess these sins and repent of them. Seek accountability to overcome them. And pray that the Lord would purify our church so we can be a holy lampstand shining His light to the community and the world.

January 5, 2025

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Revelation 2:18-29

**“The Things Which Are” – Part 4
Our Glorious Lord’s Message to the Church at Thyatira**

I. The Things Which You Have Seen – Revelation 1

II. **The Things Which Are – Revelation 2-3**

A. The Church at **Ephesus** (2:1-7)

B. The Church at **Smyrna** (2:8-11)

C. The Church at **Pergamum** (2:12-17)

D. The Church at **Thyatira** (2:18-29)

1. **Place (18)** – “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

2. **Portrait (18)** – The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:

3. **Praise (19)** – 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.

4. **Problem (20-23)** – 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.

6. **Promise (26-29)** – 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.’

So What?

5. **Prescription (24-25)** – 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.

Discussion & Application:

1. In our study of the church at Pergamum we noted that “some” of the people tolerated false teaching that leads to ungodly behavior. What is the problem with tolerance at Thyatira? How far has it spread?
2. Why might leadership in a church tolerate false teaching (extra-biblical revelation), idolatry, or immoral behavior? Why do we tolerate those things in our lives or in the lives of friends or co-workers? How should the description of Jesus in v. 18 motivate us?