

# THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

## *chapter 2:18-29*

### Lesson 5

The city of Thyatira was the smallest city that Jesus addressed. Yet, His message to its church was the longest. The One who both sees all and judges all had much to say to this church who was increasing in works, yet, at the same time, some were tolerating seductive teaching. Thus, Jesus had words of praise and words of warning. May we give equal attention to both.

#### **OBSERVATION: Read Revelation 2:18-29**

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to the *Father*, *Jesus*, and the *Holy Spirit*. You may find it difficult to identify whether a word is speaking of the *Father* or *Jesus*. For the purposes of this study, mark the words both ways.  
  
Key Words: *God/Father*, *Jesus*, (Holy) *Spirit*, *Satan*, *repent*, and *overcomes*
3. The contrasting words *nevertheless* and *but* are used in verses 20 and 25. Mark the words and record what is being contrasted.
4. Make a list of what these verses clearly reveal about Jesus.

5. On your observation worksheet, underline (in different ways or colors) and list below the phrases which reveal:
  - a. actions Jesus praised
  - b. the actions Jesus was displeased with
  - c. the correction Jesus called for
  - d. the consequences of not changing
  - e. the promise to him who overcomes

**DESCRIPTION OF JESUS: Read Revelation 2:18**

1. What church was to receive the message of Revelation 2:18-29?
2. Find Thyatira on the map below and circle it.



3. Record the two attributes of Jesus described in verse 18.
  - a. Record Jesus' earlier description of Himself from Revelation 1:14,15.
4. *The Son of God*. What instructions does God give regarding His Son in Matthew 17:5?

- a. *Eyes like a flame of fire.* Soak in the description of Jesus in Revelation 19:11-16 by reading it out loud. Share two attributes of Jesus from these verses.
  
- b. *Feet like fine brass.* Brass was the strongest known metal in the known world. What does it mean to you that Jesus, who submitted His feet of flesh to the excruciating jamming of a nail, has *feet of brass*?

### **THE GOOD: Read Revelation 2:19**

1. Make a list of the four *works* Jesus commended the believers in Thyatira for.
  - a. *The last are more than the first.* How were they different from the church in Ephesus? see Revelation 2:4
    - 1.) Using the following verses, share the importance of increasing in the things of God.  
Job 17:9  
  
Proverbs 4:18  
  
2 Peter 3:18
  - b. What does Jesus' observation of the church in Thyatira say to you about not leaning on good works or a relationship with Jesus of the past?
  - c. What are some ways a believer can have works that are *increasing*?

### **THE BAD: Read Revelation 2:20**

1. *Nevertheless I have a few things against you.* They had *allowed teaching* that led to *seduction*. What sins were some *seduced* to commit?
  - a. Define the word *allow* as it is used in verse 20.

- b. Define the word *seduced* as it is used in verse 20.
2. What are some examples of how Christians are being *seduced* today to commit *sexual immorality*?
    - a. We don't really deal with the sin of *eating things sacrificed to idols*. Why do you think this would be wrong?

Challenge: What might be an equivalent of this today?

3. The church today is still vulnerable to *seduction*. What should a church do to prevent this?
  - a. What should a believer do to prevent being *seduced*?

### **THE REMEDY: Read Revelation 2:20,21,25**

1. What word is mentioned 3 times in verses 21,22 which reveals the remedy?
  - a. Notice Jesus gave her *time to repent*. What does this reveal about Jesus?
  - b. The *Jezebel* did not *repent*. Although the Lord is merciful, here we see His judgment. What do you see here as you consider His judgment comes because of lack of repentance?
2. The plea for *repentance* was still open to *those who commit adultery with her*. There might not have been a large group of people following her. The church in Corinth was guilty of ignoring the sin of a few. What does 1 Corinthians 5:6 say about this?
  - a. In what ways have you experienced this in the church?

### **THE WARNING: Read Revelation 2:22,23**

1. Jesus' words in these verses are severe. What did He say would happen to both *Jezebel* and *those who commit adultery with her*?
  
2. What will *all the churches* know?
  
3. Carefully record the words of the last sentence of Revelation 2:23.
  - a. Connect this sentence with the sentence prior to it. What does it say to you that God knows the *heart* behind the *works*?

### **THE PROMISE TO OVERCOMERS: Read Revelation 2:24-29**

1. Jesus acknowledged that *many do not have this doctrine*. What did He say to them as recorded in verse 24?
  - a. What did Jesus tell them to do?
    - 1.) Explain the difficulties of *holding fast* in the midst of corruption.
      - a.) What are the last three words of verse 25?
        - i.) In what ways do they encourage you to *hold fast*?
  
2. What is the promise to *he who overcomes and keeps His works until the end*?
  - a. Revelation 2:27 quotes Psalm 2:8,9, a psalm about the Messiah. What does it say?
    - 1.) Because of the power of the Messiah, what "advice" follows the word *therefore* in Psalm 2? see verses 11,12

- b. Considering Christ's great power, what comes to mind as you bask in the thought of someday reigning with Him?
3. *And I will give him the morning star.* Who is the *morning star*? see Revelation 22:16.
  - a. Check your priorities as you contemplate the value of these two rewards to you. What are your thoughts?

**REVIEW: Read Revelation 2:18-29**

1. What sins do we tend to tolerate in our own lives or in the lives of other Christians that we should not?
2. What dangers do we face when we refuse to respond to God or repent?
3. How does the description of Christ relate to His words for the church in Thyatira?
4. In what ways were you encouraged or challenged by this lesson?

*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.*

*- Hebrews 4:13*

## Observation Worksheet

### Revelation 2:18-29

<sup>18</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: <sup>19</sup> I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and *as* for your works, the last *are* more than the first. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. <sup>21</sup> And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. <sup>22</sup> Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. <sup>23</sup> I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works. <sup>24</sup> Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. <sup>25</sup> But hold fast what you have till I come. <sup>26</sup> And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations-- <sup>27</sup> *'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'*— as I also have received from My Father; <sup>28</sup> and I will give him the morning star. <sup>29</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."