



Session 7 | Revelation 2:18-3:6

THE CHURCH AT THYATIRA | REVELATION 2:18-29

THE DESCRIPTION OF CHRIST | V. 18

- This is the only description in which the phrase, “Son of God” is used.
- Since the phrase about the eyes and feet are also used in 1:13-16, the “Son of God” usage here removes any doubt that chapter 1 is about Jesus Christ.

THE MESSAGE TO THE MESSENGER | VV. 20-23A

- “I know...”
 - Your works (practical works – *erga*)
 - Your love (*agape*)
 - Your service (*diakanon*)
 - Your faith (*pistis*)
 - Your endurance (*hupomeno*)
- The commendation:
 - Your last works are more than your first works
- The condemnation: They put up with Jezebel
 - Toleration is not always commendable. The word “tolerate” (NASB) / “sufferest” (KJV) is often translated “forgive.”
 - Jezebel is either a real name or a pseudonym, but the reality of the person should not be questioned.
 - As in 2:2 and 2:9, there is a verbal claim that has no physical justification.
 - The condemnation concerning Jezebel
 - The Pastor forgives her teaching
 - The Pastor forgives her misleading Christ’s slaves to commit fornication
 - The Pastor forgives her misleading Christ’s slaves to eat things sacrificed to idols (1 Corinthians 10:28)
 - Direct words about the woman and her disciples:
 - Jesus gave her time to repent, but she did not.
 - Textual variant. Critical text adds, “she does not want to repent” rather than “she repented not.”
 - Jesus will “cast her into a bed”
 - NASB adds, “of sickness”
 - Nothing inherent in the word requires sickness. It could be that Christ gives her up to immorality.

- It is possible that Christ casts “her, and those who commit adultery with her” into a bed, which then is cast into great tribulation
- She has had time, and her followers still have time: “except they repent of their deeds.”

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH | VV. 23B-29

- The repayment according to deeds (v. 23) is in the plural, and is a message to the church.
- The message of putting up with Jezebel was given solely to the Pastor. To the church He says, “I will put upon you none other burden” (KJV).
- The church’s further instruction:
 - Hold fast to what you have, overcome, and keep Christ’s deeds
- The promise to the church:
 - Authority and rule over the nations
 - The *Morning Star* (doubtless a reference to the appearance of Christ-Rev 22:16)

THE CHURCH AT SARDIS | REVELATION 3:1-6

THE DESCRIPTION OF CHRIST | V. 1

- The one who has the Seven Spirits of God and the seven stars, which are the Pastors.

THE MESSAGE TO THE MESSENGER | VV. 1-4

- I Know...
 - Thy works
 - The reputation of life
 - The deadness of the Pastor (no doubt of his spiritual vitality)
- The Commendation:
 - V. 4 - This Pastor does not really get a commendation. The closest it comes is that there are a few within the church who still remain faithful.
 - Note that the faithfulness of a member is not dependent upon the spiritual life of the Pastor.
- The Condemnation:
 - “Be watchful,” or WAKE UP!
 - Your works are not complete, yet you are letting them die
 - If the Pastor does not remember and repent, the Lord will come upon him suddenly, as a thief, and the Pastor will not be ready. Compare 1 Thes. 5:1-4

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH | VV. 5-6

- The overcomer will be dressed in white, priestly robes.
- The overcomer’s name is safely in the book of life.
- Jesus will confess the name of the overcomer before the Father and His angels.