

Study 6: Revelation 2:18-29

THYATIRA

A. The Characteristics of the City: The secular state

Thyatira was:

1. A military colony founded by Alexander the Great
2. It was a Centre of Communication and therefore an important trading post
3. More trade guilds than any other city
4. Temple to the 'sun-god' Apollo

B. The Condition of the Church: The spiritual state

1. The DESCRIPTION of the Speaker

1:14-15; 2:18

> The Lord of absolute knowledge – all-seeing

“His eyes like a flame of fire...”

> The Lord of absolute purity – fire to burn up sin, and feet of bronze to tread down all evil.

2. The REVELATION

2:19

“I know...” Used commendably.

3. The COMMENDATION

2:19

> Love (agape) – a love that will never cease to do good in spite of everything it may have to suffer.

> Service – what the Master expects from His servants.

> Faith – confidence, trust, fidelity.

> Patience – the ability to wait and never give up hope.

> Perseverance – to continue to work, progress, develop. You are now doing more than you did at the first.

4. The CONDEMNATION

2:20-21. Opposition from within is often insidious. Jezebel worked from within the people of God to corrupt them.

5. The CAUTION

2:22-25

- > Repentance or Judgement 2:22-23
- > Refrain and Retain 2:24-25

6. The EXPECTATION of reward for the ‘Overcomer’
2:26-29

- > Power – the tables will be turned! 2:26
- > Promise – ‘the Morning Star!’

Purity – truth – love.

There are still two voices in the church today:

- > Jezebel calling for compromise
- > Christ calling for purity

Who is on the Lord’s side?
