

How can I understand the letter to the church of Thyatira in Revelation (2:18-29)?

The next section of the book of Revelation is a series of 7 letters sent to 7 different first century churches. The churches that were to receive the letters were churches that already existed and the condition of those churches are what is being addressed. It has nothing to do with the general state of the church during 7 epochs of time but the churches with the described characteristics existed in the first century and they continue to exist today.

1. What is the significance of the identity of the speaker to the angel?

Revelation **2:18**

John **3:36**

Deuteronomy **4:23-26**

Jeremiah **4:28-29**

The speaker identifies Himself as “He hath eyes like unto a flame of fire, and His feet are like fine brass”. The “eyes like unto a flame of fire” is a reference to the unwavering judgment against sin that the Lord has. The “feet .. like fine brass” is a reference to the Lord's steadfast commitment to His word. What He has said, He will hold fast to and not repent nor digress from His word.

2. What is the word of commendation to the church?

Revelation **2:19**

Romans **8:1-3**

Galatians **3:22-25**

Galatians **1:4-5**

John **14:12-14**

Ephesians **2:10-13**

Genesis **4:23-24**

The church of Thyatira is identified as church that is filled with love and service. A church that continues to be kind and generous and patient with others. We have been called by God to do the same works and service that Jesus did, works that are fueled and led by the indwelling Spirit of God.

3. Do we know why God did not just send Christ instead of waiting through the fallout from the law?

Galatians **3:22-25**

Galatians **1:4-5**

Genesis **4:23-24**

The scriptures tell us that the purpose of the law of God was to bring us to the knowledge of our need for Christ. A person can never understand their need for healing and restoration until they truly understand just how sick and in need for God's healing power and transformation. The timing of Jesus' arrival took place “in the fullness of time”, in other words when the time was right according to God's timeline. Everything had to be just right.

4. What is the word of condemnation to the church?

Revelation **2:20-23**

1 Timothy **4:1-3**

1 Corinthians **5:1-5**

Titus **3:8-11**

The church of Thyatira had problems with being overly patient. They did not expose sin and seek to stop it instead, some with bad teaching were consistently in the church leading others astray. While we need to be patient, we cannot allow for perverted doctrine to enter into the congregation nor can we allow for perverse actions to enter into the congregation.

5. What is the word of correction to the church?

Revelation **2:24-26**

Ephesians **4:11-15**

2 Timothy **4:3-5**

Acts **20:27-31**

God's call to all churches, especially those surrounded by corrupt doctrine is to remain steadfast in the doctrine that comes from the Lord and not to get caught up with the latest fad of doctrines nor with doctrine that is corrupt just because it is popular in your area.

6. What is the word of encouragement to the those that truly hear?

Revelation **2:27-29**

1 Corinthians **15:58**

1 Peter **2:19-21**

Matthew **10:21-23**

God promises power and rule for those who remain steadfast in the doctrine of God. This is a calling that is independent of the hardship and persecutions you face.