

Bible reading

Revelation 2:18–29

Revelation 2:18–29

¹⁸ “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.

Revelation 2:18–29

²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.

²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways.

²³ I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

²⁴ Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you):

²⁵ Only hold on to what you have until I come.



Revelation 2:18–29

²⁶ To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations—

²⁷ ‘He will rule them with an iron scepter; he will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father.

²⁸ I will also give him the morning star.

²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

The 7 churches series: Thyatira

Elmer Arentsen
IBC Eindhoven
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A trip through Asia Minor

- ▶ Ephesus
 - Intolerant to false teaching
 - Lost their first love
- ▶ Smyrna
 - Slandered
 - Encouraged
- ▶ Pergamum
 - Still faithful
 - Infiltrated
- ▶ Thyatira



Thyatira

- ▶ Small city
 - Patron: Apollo, the son of Zeus
- ▶ Commercial city
 - Lots of trade and wealth
 - Lydia the seller of purple
- ▶ Industries organized themselves in guilds
 - Fellowship meals with food sacrifices and orgies
 - No member, no business
- ▶ A choice to follow Jesus would mean hardship



Or not?

The letter to Thyatira

- ▶ All letters have the same structure
 1. Author (part of the vision in Revelation 1)
 2. Strengths
 3. Weaknesses
 4. Action to take
 5. Promise

The author

▶ Ephesus

^{1b} These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands

▶ Smyrna

^{8b} These are the words of him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again.

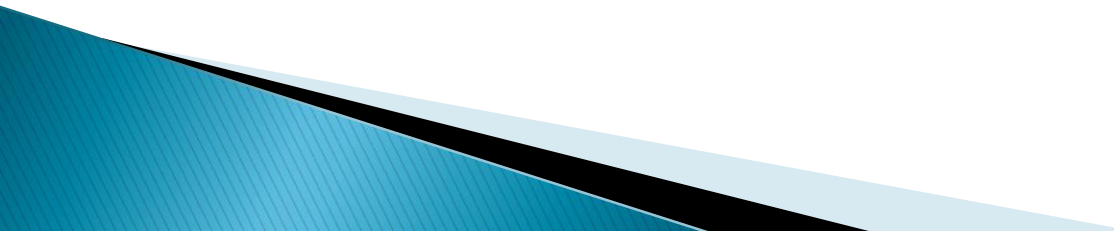
▶ Pergamum

^{12b} These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.

The author

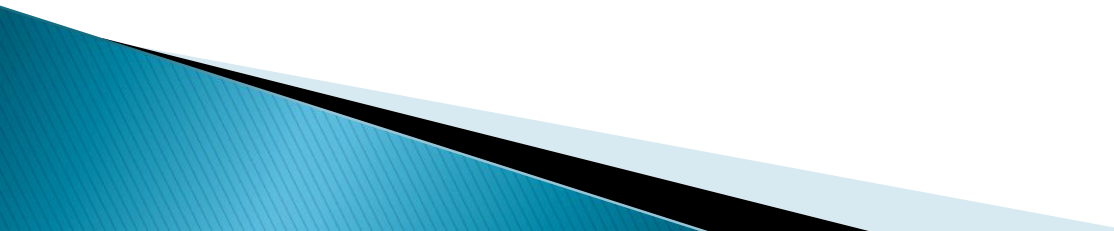
- ▶ Thyatira

¹⁸ These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze.

- ▶ Son of God
 - ▶ Eyes like blazing fire
 - ▶ Feet like burnished bronze
- 

Strengths

¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

- ▶ Love
 - ▶ Faith
 - ▶ Service
 - ▶ Perseverance
 - ▶ Growth
- 

Weaknesses

²⁰ Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols.

- ▶ Tolerate false teaching
- ▶ Tolerate immoral behavior
- ▶ Tolerate the world

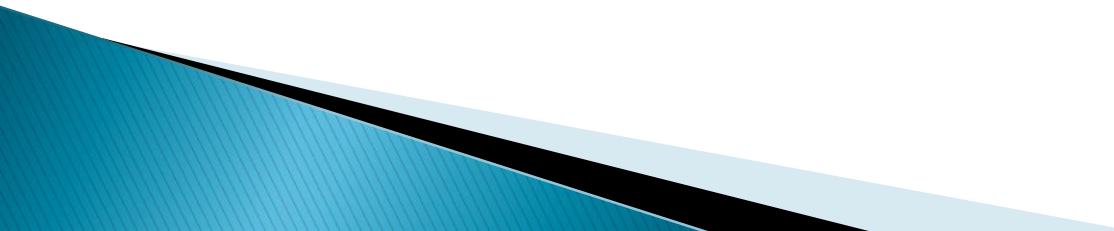
1 Kings 18:21:

How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, then follow Him; but if Ba'al, then follow him.

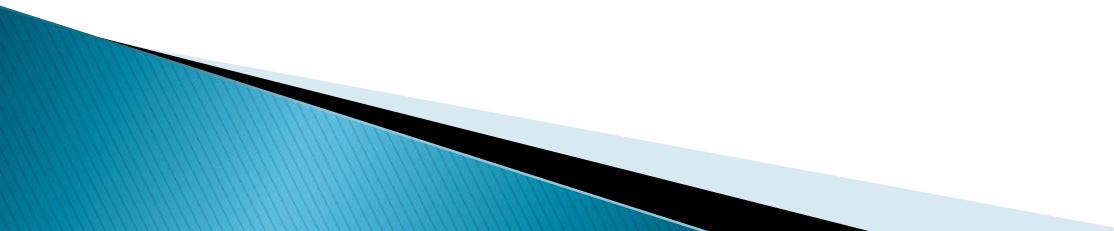
Jezebel

1 Kings 16:29–33:

²⁹ In the thirty–eighth year of Asa king of Judah, Ahab son of Omri became king of Israel, and he reigned in Samaria over Israel twenty–two years.³⁰ Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him. ³¹ He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him. ³² He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria. ³³ Ahab also made an Asherah pole and did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him.

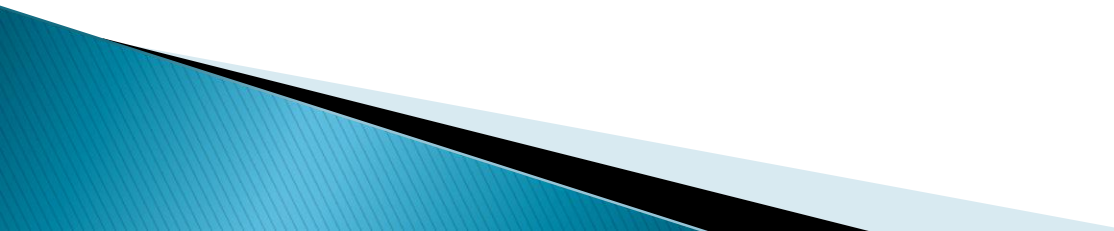


Jezebel

- ▶ Killed hundreds of prophets of God
 - ▶ Let priests of Baal eat at her table
 - ▶ Threatened to kill Elijah
 - ▶ Was killed with all her family by Jehu, sent by God to destroy her
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Weaknesses

- ▶ Who or what is a Jezebel in our life?
 - Do I mix Godly and worldly lifestyles?
 - Am I capable to recognize and rebuke it?

 - ▶ Who or what is a Jezebel in our church?
 - Is the teaching Godly or mixed with worldly thoughts?
 - Are we capable to recognize and rebuke false teachers?
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Action to take

²¹ I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.

²² So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways.

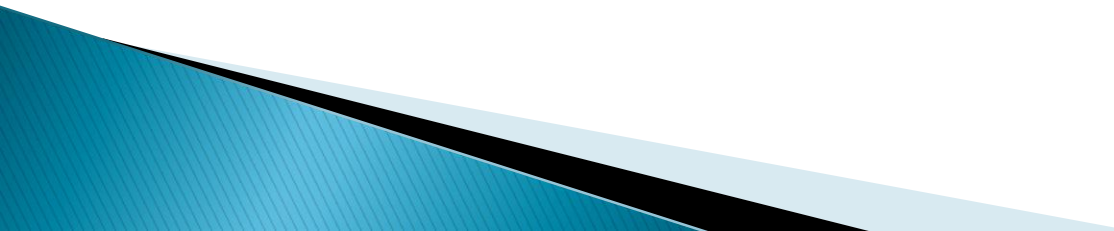
²³ I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

- ▶ No call to repent
 - ▶ It is beyond repair, God has to intervene
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Action to take

²⁴ Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets (I will not impose any other burden on you):

²⁵ Only hold on to what you have until I come.

- ▶ No action to take but to hold on
 - ▶ Jesus will set things straight in His time
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Promise

▶ Ephesus

^{7b} To him who overcomes, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

▶ Smyrna

^{11b} He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death.

▶ Pergamum

^{17b} To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.

Promise

- ▶ Thyatira

²⁶ To him who overcomes and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations [...] just as I have received authority from my Father. ²⁸ I will also give him the morning star.

- ▶ Authority over the nations

- ▶ Morning star

Promise

Malachi 4:1–3:

¹ “Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. ² But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. ³ Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things,” says the LORD Almighty.

A trip through Asia Minor

- ▶ Thyatira
 - Good works
 - Compromised
- ▶ Sardis
 - February 12
 - Revelation 3:1–4

