



CHRIST'S EVALUATION OF HIS CHURCH "Pure-Heartedness in the Church" Revelation 2:18-29

No. 1492

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Thyatira was the least important of the seven cities but its church received the longest letter. This may have been because while outwardly the church was prospering, he who "searches hearts and minds" had detected serious problems that needed immediate attention.

I. Christ's Expression of Concerns for the Church.

- A. The Son of God who loves and gave Himself. Galatians 2:20
- B. The Son of God whose eyes flash fire.
 - 1. The fiery glance of indignation. Mark 3:5
 - 2. The fiery glance of insight.
 - a. Searching hearts and minds. v. 23; Jeremiah 17:9-10
 - b. Rewarding according to deeds.
- C. The Son of God whose feet are burnished bronze.
 - 1. Standing firm and true.

II. Christ's Evaluation of the Condition of the Church.

- A. An evaluation of performance. v. 19
 - 1. Love. 2. Faith. 3. Service. 4. Perseverance.
- B. An evaluation of progress.
 - 1. Doing more than at first.
 - 2. Contrast Ephesus. Revelation 2:4
- C. An evaluation of problems. v. 20
 - 1. Problem leadership.
 - a. Self-styled prophetess.
 - b. Misleading 'my servants.'
 - c. Similar to Jezebel's influence. 1 Kings 16:29f; 2 Kings 9:30f
 - d. Unrepentant.
 - 2. Problem lifestyles.
 - a. Seduced into compromise—trade guilds?
 - b. Secular in orientation.
 - c. Sexually immoral.
 - d. Spiritually corrupt—idols.
 - e. Satanic influence. v. 24

III. Christ's Explanation of Consequences for the Church.

- A. Consequences for the unrepentant.
 - 1. Time is given for repentance. v. 21
 - 2. But, judgment will eventually fall. vv. 22-23
- B. Consequences for the faithful.
 - 1. Will not be overburdened—legalism, not the answer to licentiousness.
 - 2. Will continue in faithfulness.
 - 3. Will reign with Christ in His kingdom. Matthew 25:21, 23; 1 Corinthians 6:2
 - 4. Will receive the Morning Star. Revelation 22:16