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# The Book of Revelation: Session 6

## Revelation 2:18-29

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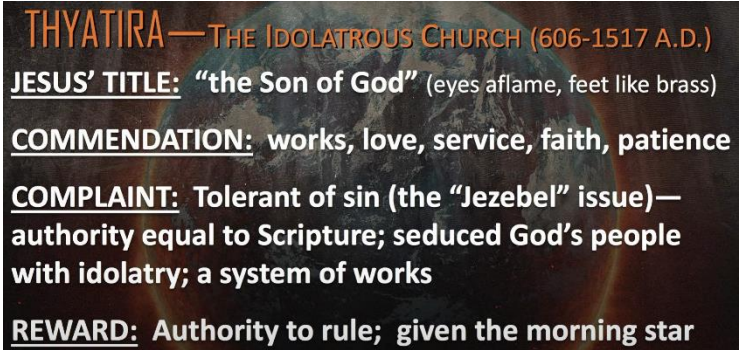
**YouTube:** “Verse by Verse Teaching | Revelation 2:18-29 | Gary Hamrick”  
(taught on June 24, 2020; 43:36 minutes)

### Notes:

“Whenever you add anything to the fact that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone – if you add any human component to that, you have just corrupted the message of the cross.

“Thyatira was riddled with idolatry. ... Jesus is calling out their affection for idols.”

“We must be consumed with Jesus. He can’t just be relegated to the fringes of our lives.”



**THYATIRA—THE IDOLATROUS CHURCH (606-1517 A.D.)**  
**JESUS’ TITLE:** “the Son of God” (eyes aflame, feet like brass)  
**COMMENDATION:** works, love, service, faith, patience  
**COMPLAINT:** Tolerant of sin (the “Jezebel” issue)—  
authority equal to Scripture; seduced God’s people  
with idolatry; a system of works  
**REWARD:** Authority to rule; given the morning star

### Questions:

1. Read Revelation 2:18-19:
  - a. Jesus, in this letter, is “the Son of God,” with eyes like blazing fire and feet like burnished bronze. Why is this description fitting, considering the message that follows to this church that is tolerating sin?
  - b. If you remember, the church in Ephesus was “playing defense” in not tolerating false teaching, yet failed to “play offense,” forgetting her first love. How is the church in Thyatira doing as it comes to playing offense and defense?

2. Read Revelation 2:20-23. Many trade guilds, somewhat like modern-day unions, existed in Thyatira. Marty Culy explains, “It would have been virtually impossible for anyone engaged in a trade to continue to do business in Thyatira without maintaining their membership in the appropriate guild. Such membership, however, required participation in guild feasts, which were likely contexts where both eating food sacrificed to idols and sexual immorality were commonplace. ... Jezebel’s message was simple: “It’s not that bad! Idols are really nothing anyway! Sex of whatever sort is no big deal when you are already seated with Christ in the heavenly realms! Besides, if you don’t go with the flow, you’re going to be out of a job!” The world constantly tells us to compromise, to go with the flow. How is what is going on in Thyatira similar? How is it different, and more destructive?
  
3. Read Revelation 2:24-29:
  - a. Overcomers will one day be given authority over the nations. Read Daniel 7:26-27. Often, in today’s world, God’s people are made to feel like the tail, bottom dwellers. How does it impact you to realize that one day we will rule and reign with the Head, Jesus Christ our Lord?
  
  - b. Overcomers will also be given “the morning star.” Culy writes, “The “morning star” was one way of referring to the planet Venus, the star that heralded the new day. ... Jesus clearly uses the title for Himself in Revelation 22:16. ... Part of the promise here is that Jesus will give Himself as a reward. ... His words promise intimacy with Him to all those who keep His words and obey His commands. ... Jesus’ words likely [also] point to an eschatological day that will dawn for those who overcome, with the brightness of that day heralding the future glory that overcomers will share with their Lord.” Read Daniel 12:1-3, focusing especially on verse 3. One day, we will know Jesus fully, and shine gloriously for Him. How can we pursue intimacy with Jesus and shining even brighter for Him, even today?

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Want to dig deeper? Engage with these sermons by John MacArthur, taught in 1992:

- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-9/thyatira-the-church-that-tolerates-sin-part-1>
- <https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/66-10/thyatira-the-church-that-tolerates-sin-part-2>