

SINGLEMINDED SERVICE

Letter to the Church at Thyatira (Revelation 2:12-17)

I. Christ's Commendation of the Church

I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first. (Revelation 2:19)

A. Your works is characterized by love.

B. You are abounding in good works.

II. Christ's Rebuke to the Church

Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. (Rev. 2:20)

➔ What characterizes the doctrine of Jezebel (v. 20)?

- It appears as religious.
- It is taught in everyday life.
- It is embraced through deception.
- It is expressed in immorality and idolatry

➔ In what ways can we as believers commit spiritual adultery?

1. Exalting people or things above God.

Know therefore this day, and consider *it* in thine heart, that the LORD he *is* God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: *there is* none else. (Deut. 4:39)

2. Living for self rather than living for God.

And when he had called the people *unto him* with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. (Mark 8:34)

3. Excusing sin in any degree.

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. (2 Corinthians 6:16)

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III. Christ's Warning to the Church

A. He offers mercy through repentance.

- And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. (Revelation 2:21)
- He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh *them* shall have mercy. (Proverbs 28:13)

B. He warns of tribulation because of willful disobedience.

Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death.... (Revelation 2:22–23)

1) Sin brings unforeseen consequences.

Stolen waters are sweet, and bread *eaten* in secret is pleasant. But he knoweth not that the dead *are* there; *and that* her guests *are* in the depths of hell. (Proverbs 9:17–18)

2) Sin always brings death—even in the life of a believer.

For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. (Romans 8:6)

➔ *In what ways is it possible for a Christian to die spiritually?*

➔ *Are we content to go on without God's fullest blessing on our life?*

IV. Christ's Reward to Overcomers

A. I will give him authority over the nations

And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: (Revelation 2:26)

➔ *Faithful believers will reign with Christ in His coming Kingdom!*

B. I will give him the morning star.

And I will give him the morning star. (Revelation 2:28)

➔ *Jesus Christ will be your portion—both now and in eternity!*

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