

A Study Of The Book Of Revelation

July 12, 2020

Resources used:

- A Study Of The Book Of Revelation by Bob Dodson
- More Than Conquerors by William Hendriksen
- Overcoming With The Lamb, Florida College Annual Lectures, February 7-10, 1994
- Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary by Homer Hailey
- Revelation (Truth Commentaries) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation (A Study Workbook) by Robert Harkrider
- Revelation by Donnie Rader
- Studies In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Old Testament In The Book Of Revelation by Ferrell Jenkins
- The Revelation Of Saint John The Divine by G.B. Caird
- The Book of Revelation by Foy E. Wallace
- The Avenging of the Apostles and Prophets by Arthur M. Ogden
- Worthy Is The Lamb by Ray Summers
- Written exchange on "The Domitian Persecution" between Arthur M. Ogden and Ferrell Jenkins presented in Searching The Scriptures, June 12, 1989, pages 7;12

The Church at Thyatira

Revelation 2:18-29

III. The Weakness (verse 20)

Tolerant

A. Jezebel was allowed

B. What was allowed

C. The church bore some responsibility

1. God held the church responsible for its members. We need the constant presence of others who will ***"reprove, rebuke, and exhort"*** (2 Timothy 4:2).
2. Blame is not just on Jezebel, but on the church! Philippians 2:15-16; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 3 John

Revelation 2:18-29

A Tolerant Church

Revelation 2:18-29

- I. The Messenger (verses 18, 23)
- II. The Strength (verse 19)
- III. The Weakness (verse 20)

Revelation 2:18-29

A Tolerant Church

Revelation 2:18-29

IV. The Warning (verses 21-23) Revelation

2:22-23, *"Behold, I cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of her works. And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he that searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto each one of you according to your works."*

Revelation 2:18-29

IV. The Warning (verses 21-23)

- A. *Rejected opportunities and refused to repent* (verse 21)**
- B. *Faces judgment* (verse 23); just and certain
2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 2:6; 14:10-12**
- C. *Punishment* (verses 22-23)**
 - 1. Sickbed
 - 2. Tribulation
 - 3. Kill children with death
- D. *The choice was theirs* (verse 22) Galatians 6:7-8; Hebrews 13:4**

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Revelation 2:18-29

A Tolerant Church

Revelation 2:18-29

- I. The Messenger (verses 18, 23)**
- II. The Strength (verse 19)**
- III. The Weakness (verse 20)**
- IV. The Warning (verses 21-23)**
- V. The Assurance (verses 24-29)**

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Revelation 2:18-29

V. The Assurance (verses 24-29)

Revelation 2:24, "... to the rest that are in Thyatira, as many as have not this teaching, who know not the deep things of Satan, as they are wont to say; I cast upon you none other burden." cf. Acts 15:28

- A. *Not all compromise or sin* (verse 24)**
- B. *Lord knows and understands* (verse 24)**
- C. *Can endure and overcome* (verses 25-26a)**
- D. *Rewarded* (verses 26b-29) Psalms 2:8-9**

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Revelation 2:18-29

V. The Assurance (verses 24-29)

Revelation 2:25-27, "Nevertheless that which ye have, hold fast till I come." cf. Galatians 6:9; Revelation 2:10

"And he that overcometh, and he that keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give authority over the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, as the vessels of the potter are broken to shivers; as I also have received of my Father"

- Share with the Lord in His victory.
Revelation 12:5; 19:15

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Revelation 2:18-29

V. The Assurance (verses 24-29)

Revelation 2:28-29, "and I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith to the churches."

- The dawn of a new day.

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Revelation 2:18-29

A Tolerant Church

Revelation 2:18-29

- I. The Messenger (verses 18, 23)**
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The Church at Sardis

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Revelation 3:1-6

“Letter to the Church at Sardis” *The Church That Was Dead*

- I. Identification of the Author (verse 1)
- II. Commendation (verses 2, 4)
- III. Condemnation (verses 1, 3)
- IV. Plea to Repent (verse 3)
- V. Promise if they Overcome (verses 5-6)

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Letters To Seven Church of Asia (Revelation 2-3)

- Some were **good** (Smyrna, Philadelphia)
- Some were **good / bad** (Ephesus, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis)
- One was **bad** (Laodicea)

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Letters To Seven Church of Asia (Revelation 2-3)



- Most of us would like to be in GOOD church (no condemnation)
- None of us would have anything to do with a BAD church (no commendation)
- Reality: may be in a church that is GOOD / BAD (Some commendation and some condemnation)

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The Church At Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)

May have been shocked – To learn they were dead!

Dear Sardis,
You think
you're alive,
but you're
dead.

Yet – they had
many desirable
qualities

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Revelation 3:1-6

**S
A
R
D
I
S**

- Capital of Lydia.
- 50 miles east of Smyrna.
- 70 miles southeast of Pergamum.
- Great commercial city.
- Strong military position.
- The city where production of money coins began.
- The city of Sardis was also notorious for its pleasures and luxury loving spirit.
 - The wealthier the city became, the more decadent its citizens grew.
- Had prominent temples.

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Revelation 3:1-6

S
A
R
D
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S

- Sardis was a city confident of its security.
- Located on a narrow ridge of rock jutting from Mount Tmolus, this city seemed to be an impregnable fortress. Except for the one entrance from the south, the other three sides of this plateau were bounded by smooth, apparently unscalable mountain rock rising perpendicularly 1500 feet above the plain.

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Revelation 3:1-6

Sardis was a city confident of its security. "The Greek historian Herodotus gave an account of how the Persian king, Cyrus, captured Sardis in 549 B.C. (*Herodotus 1.84*). He offered a reward to his troops to any man who found a way to penetrate what seemed to be an unscalable mountain. One of his men observed that a Lydian soldier on the rampart above accidentally dropped his helmet down the mountainside. The Lydian soldier carefully picked his way down through a narrow crevice to recover his helmet and climbed back again. That night the observant Persian soldier led a band of men up the cliffs by the way he had meticulously marked in his memory. They found the battlements completely unguarded because the Lydian king never thought anyone could find a way up the side of the steep cliffs. Sardis felt completely safe and secure, but that night the city fell to the enemy." (Harkrider, page 130)

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AUTHOR DESCRIBED

- "Seven spirits of God." (cf. 1:4)
- "Seven stars." (1:16, 20)
- Revelation 3:1
- Spirit in "full measure"
 - John 3:34
 - Colossians 2:9
- Had perfect insight into their problems.

Revelation 3:1-6

A Dead Church
Revelation 3:1-6

I. Good Qualities That Did Not Prevent Death

"The socially distinguished congregation there was a spiritual graveyard." (Graham, page 22)

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Revelation 3:1-6

I. Good Qualities That Did Not Prevent Death

A. Good Reputation (verse 1, cf. 2 Timothy 3:5)

1. *Might be based on:*

- Past stand
- Members that are known
- Preacher they had or have
- How they stood on one issue

Reputation versus character.

- God's view is crystal clear
- God sees in the heart
- He knows motives and true character

1 Samuel 16:7

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