



## DEAR CHURCH IN THYATIRA

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### Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 2:18-29

#### Intro:

Revelation is meant to equip believers in every generation to address the challenges they face in a world that is often opposed to the kingdom of God.

#### 1. Commendation (v. 19)

Jesus always notices our hard work.

Colossians 3:17

Am I challenging myself to grow?

#### 2. Warning (v. 20)

Jezebel:

- Daughter of the king of Tyre & Sidon
- Wife of Israelite king Ahab
- Imported the worship of Baal to Israel

1 Kings 18:21

It is impossible to give God your whole heart if you have multiple lovers.

Thyatira:

[www.betheltab.ca](http://www.betheltab.ca)

- Centre for the worship of Apollo
- Well known for its trade guilds
- Work in a trade required participation in a guild, including participation in guild activities

Baal:

- god of nature, as it is *now*. If it feels natural; it's good.

The Bible teaches us that nature is broken, and even our hearts should not be trusted.

We only know who we are, who we ought to be and all that we can be through knowledge of the word of God.

#### 3. What is a disciple of Jesus to do?

a) Examine your own potential areas of compromise

Our compromises are acts of worship, but not acts of worship of Jesus. They are acts of worship of false gods, of beasts and of the dragon.

b) Watch out for Jezebel

You'll always find someone to give you permission to do or believe whatever you want.

2 Timothy 4:3

1 John 4:1

#### 4. Promise (v. 26-29)

We sell ourselves short by compromising our values to join a trade guild. We're kings and queens. We're rulers with Christ – why would we give that away to merely be a member of a guild?

Revelation 22:16 - Jesus is the morning star. His promise is his presence. The dawn is near for those who have Jesus.

Bethel Church Penticton - Sunday May 27, 2018 - Pastor Dave Funk

## Life Group Discussion

### Warm up:

1. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

### Study & Discussion:

1. The Christians in Thyatira were commended for "doing more than they did at first" (v. 19). What do you think that means? How do you challenge yourself to continue growing as a Christian? What is an area of your faith that you need to grow in? Ask the group for advice on how to do it.
2. The Christians in Thyatira were tempted to compromise by participating in worship acts to Apollo in order to gain access to the benefits of the trade guilds. In what ways are Christians (and churches) tempted to compromise on our culture today? Have you ever found yourself in a situation where someone was asking you to compromise your beliefs? What did you do?
3. Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5 and 1 John 4:1-6. These passages warn us that there will always be teachers and so-called prophets who will give us permission to believe whatever we want - they will preach compromise as a Christian virtue, like Jezebel did. How do we defend ourselves against this? How do we "test the spirits" to figure out who the false prophets are? How do we know our pastor isn't a Jezebel?

### Prayer:

- Pray for boldness to live a life without compromise.
- Pray for our church to be protected from the influence of "Jezebel"

### Other Requests

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