



SAVED TO SERVE

Pastor Andrew Henriques

www.prophecyagain.com

THE SEVEN CHURCHES: THYATIRA

1. In this Sabbath School Lesson, we will continue our series studying the seven churches of Revelation. We will focus on the church of Thyatira and find out how its message applies to us today.

“The names of the seven churches are symbolic of the church in different periods of the Christian Era. The number 7 indicates completeness, and is symbolic of the fact that the messages extend to the end of time, while the symbols used reveal the condition of the church at different periods in the history of the world.” {AA 585.3}

2. Read Revelation 2:18. What does Thyatira mean, and what time period does the church of Thyatira cover?

“If the period covered by the Pergamos church has been correctly located, terminating with the setting up of the papacy, A.D. 538, the most natural division to be assigned to the church of Thyatira would be the time of the continuance of this blasphemous power through the 1260 years of its supremacy, or from A.D.538 to A.D.1798.” {DAR1909 387.3}

“Thyatira signifies “sweet savor of labor,” or “sacrifice of contrition.” This would well describe the state of the church of Jesus Christ during the long period of papal triumph and persecution.” {DAR1909 387.4}

3. What is one meaning of Jesus’ eyes being described as a flame of fire? Revelation 2:18; Proverbs 15:3 _____
4. **Note:** Jesus is always beholding our works whether they be good or evil (Ecclesiastes 12:14). To the wicked, He is a consuming fire, and they will be destroyed by His appearing (Hebrews 12:29; 2 Thessalonians 2:8). The righteous, typified by Moses at the burning bush, will be able to stand in God’s presence and not be consumed (Exodus 3:1-2).
5. What is Jesus’ commendation to the church of Thyatira? Revelation 2:19 _____

“Thyatira signifies “sweet savor of labor,” or “sacrifice of contrition.” This would well describe the state of the church of Jesus Christ during the long period of papal triumph and persecution. **This age of such dreadful tribulation upon the church as never was (Matthew 24:21), improved the religious conditions of believers. Hence they receive for their works, charity, service, faith, and patience, the commendation of Him whose eyes are as a flame of fire. And works are then again mentioned, as if worthy of double commendation.** And the last were more than the first. **There had been an improvement in their condition, a growth of grace, an increase in all these elements of Christianity. This church is the only one that is commended for an improvement in spiritual things.** But as in the church of Pergamos unfavorable circumstances were no apology for false doctrines in the church, so in this church, no amount of labor, charity, service, faith, or patience could compensate for a like sin. A rebuke is therefore given them for suffering in their midst -” {DAR1909 387.4}

6. Read Revelation 2:20. Jezebel mentioned here is a symbol of Papal Rome otherwise known as Babylon or Roman Catholicism. Let us now confirm this point. By comparing scripture with scripture on Jezebel and Babylon, write down the identifying markers on each line.
 - a) 1 Kings 16:31, 32; 2 Kings 23:5 _____
 - b) 2 Kings 9:22; Revelation 18:2, 23 _____
 - c) 1 Kings 18:4, 13; Revelation 17:6 _____
 - d) 2 Kings 9:32, 33; Revelation 14:8 _____
 - e) 1 Kings 21:26; Jeremiah 50:2 _____

“Jezebel is a figurative name, alluding to Ahab’s wife, who slew the prophets of the Lord, led her husband into idolatry, and fed the prophets of Baal at her own table. A more striking figure could not have been used do denote the papal abominations. (See 1 Kings, chapters 18, 19, and 21). It is very evident from history, as well as from this verse, that

the church of Christ did suffer some of the papal monks to preach and teach among them. (See the 'History of the Waldenses.')

7. Read Revelation 2:21. Was Jezebel given an opportunity to repent in the time of Elijah? Did she repent? 1 Kings 18:17-46; 19:1-2
-

8. During 538 to 1798 A.D., who did God use to call the Papal leaders to repentance? _____

“One of the noblest testimonies ever uttered for the Reformation was the Protest offered by the Christian princes of Germany at the Diet of Spire in 1529. The courage, faith, and firmness of those men of God gained for succeeding ages liberty of thought and of conscience. Their Protest gave to the reformed church the name of Protestant; its principles are “the very essence of Protestantism.”—D'Aubigne, b. 13, ch. 6. {GC 197.1}

“Those who stubbornly closed their eyes to the light, and determined not to be convinced of the truth, were enraged at the power of Luther's words. As he ceased speaking, the spokesman of the Diet said angrily: “You have not answered the question put to you.... You are required to give a clear and precise answer.... Will you, or will you not, retract?” {GC 160.1

“The Reformer answered: “Since your most serene majesty and your high mightinesses require from me a clear, simple, and precise answer, I will give you one, and it is this: **I cannot submit my faith either to the pope or to the councils, because it is clear as the day that they have frequently erred and contradicted each other. Unless therefore I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture or by the clearest reasoning, unless I am persuaded by means of the passages I have quoted, and unless they thus render my conscience bound by the word of God, I cannot and I will not retract, for it is unsafe for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand, I can do no other; may God help me. Amen.**”—Ibid., b. 7, ch. 8. {GC 160.2}

9. In these last days, what message of repentance will be sounded by God's faithful people against the Papacy and those who believe her false doctrines? Revelation 18:4
-

10. Read Revelation 2:22. Because Jezebel refused to repent, what tribulation did she experience? 2 Kings 9:31-37
-

11. What punishment will Babylon receive for refusing to accept God's truth and holding onto false doctrines? Revelation 18:6-11
-

12. Read Revelation 2:23. Were Jezebel's children killed because of her sins? 2 Kings 9:22-24; 10:1-11
-

13. Who are the children of modern-day Babylon, the Papacy? Revelation 17:5
-

14. Revelation 2:23 says that Jezebel's children will be killed and God will give to everyone according to their works. When does this take place? Revelation 19:20, 21; 20:10, 14, 15; Jeremiah 17:10
-

15. Since God will give to every man according to his works, what must we pray in order to be found righteous in His sight? Psalm 139:23-24; 26:2
-

16. To those who did not and will not accept or practice the false doctrines of the Papacy, what is God's admonition? Revelation 2:24-25; 22:12-14; Revelation 3:11
-

17. Read Revelation 2:26. What works did Jesus do which we must keep unto the end? Matthew 4:23; 1 Peter 2:21, 22
-

18. Read Revelation 2:26, 27. Who rules the nations with a rod of iron? Revelation 12:5; 19:15; Psalm 2:7-9

19. Will the saints also rule the nations with a rod of iron? When does this take place? Psalm 149:5-9; Revelation 20:4, 12-13

20. What will Jesus give to those who overcome? Who does it represent? Revelation 2:28; 22:16; Genesis 15:1

21. In order to receive Christ now and in person once we overcome this world, what must we give to Him in exchange? Galatians 1:3, 4

"The Morning Star. - Christ says, in chapter 22:16, that he is himself the morning star. The morning star is the immediate forerunner of the day. What is here called the morning star, is called the day star in 2 Peter 1:19, where it is associated with the dawn of the day: "Until the day dawn, and the day star arise." **During the saints' weary night of watching, they have the word of God to shed its needful light upon their path. But when the day star shall arise in their hearts, or the morning star be given to the overcomers, they will be taken into so close a relationship to Christ that their hearts will be fully illuminated with his Spirit, and they will walk in his light.** Then they will no longer need the sure word of prophecy, which now shines as a light in a dark place. Hasten on, O glorious hour, when the light of heaven's bright day shall rise upon the pathway of the little flock, and beams of glory from the eternal world shall gild their banners!" {DAR1909 391.1}