

THE BOOK OF REVELATION
LETTERS TO THE CHURCHES
RSC SERMON SERIES





M Y S I A

Pergamum

Thyatira

L Y D I A

Smyrna

Sardis

Philadelphia

Ephesus

Laodicea







Easton's Bible Dictionary

A city of Asia Minor, on the borders of Lydia and Mysia. Its modern name is Akhisar, i.e., "white castle."... Lydia, the seller of purple, or rather of cloth dyed with this colour, was from this city (Acts 16:14)... Among the ruins, inscriptions have been found relating to the guild of dyers in that city in ancient times.



Bible Knowledge Commentary

Although not a great city, it was nevertheless important through commerce... Associated with its commerce was an extensive trade guild or labour union network... Each guild had its own patron deity, feasts, and seasonal festivities that included sexual revelries. Religiously, the city was unimportant, though the worship of Apollo and Artemis (Diana) was prominent.



William Barclay

The danger that threatened the church in Thyatira was the result of the powerful existence of trade guilds. ...in all likelihood is that this woman, who is called Jezebel, argued and insisted that Christians should become members of the heathen functions, that they should compromise with the heathen world and with heathen worship (and morals) in order to protect their business interests...



Revelation 2:18-19 (NIV)

***18 “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:
These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are
like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished
bronze.¹⁹ I know your deeds, your love and faith, your
service and perseverance, and that you are now doing
more than you did at first.***



20 Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling.



22 So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. 23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.



24 Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan's so-called deep secrets, 'I will not impose any other burden on you, 25 except to hold on to what you have until I come.'



26 To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— 27 that one 'will rule them with an iron sceptre and will dash them to pieces like pottery'—just as I have received authority from my Father. 28 I will also give that one the morning star.



Format of the letter

- a) a description of Christ***
- b) a commendation***
- c) a rebuke***
- d) an exhortation***
- e) an encouraging promise***
- f) and a call to heed the message.***



Revelation 2:18 (NIV)

***“To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:
These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are
like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished
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Revelation 2:19 (NIV)

I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.



Revelation 2:23 (NIV)

... I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.



Numbers 32:23 (NIV)

... you may be sure that your sin will find you out.

Galatians 6:7 (NIV)

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A person reaps what they sow.



Matthew 16:18 (NIV)

...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.



Revelation 2:19 (NIV)

I know your deeds...



Revelation 2:25 (NIV)

... hold on to what you have until I come.



Revelation 2:26-28 (MSG)

“Here’s the reward I have for every conqueror, everyone who keeps at it, refusing to give up: You’ll rule the nations, your Shepherd-King rule as firm as an iron staff, their resistance fragile as clay pots. This was the gift my Father gave me; I pass it along to you—and with it, the Morning Star!



Revelation 22:16 (NIV)

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this testimony for the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star.”



1 John 5:4 (NIV)

... for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.



Revelation 2:29 (NIV)

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.



John 16:13 (NIVUK)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.

