



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## Thyatira – A Corrupt Church (Rev 2:18-29)

FEBRUARY 19, 2020

Dave DePue, Pastor / Kansas Capitol Commission / [dave.depue@capitolcom.org](mailto:dave.depue@capitolcom.org) / [www.capitolcom.org/kansas](http://www.capitolcom.org/kansas)

*The culture and its social norms are a powerful influence on you to bring you into submission as one of the crowd. An elected official can more easily see this dynamic when bombarded by subtle and the more direct pressures. These come through friends, family, media, as well as community and social groups. Our daily association with our lobbyist friends gives us a clear picture of what influence the culture has on the individual. **What cultural pressure have you strived to come against?***

### INTRODUCTION

God sent a letter to each of seven churches, speaking through the Apostle John. These historical churches are typical of most of those in our neighborhoods today. The message to their spiritual leadership is very relevant in today's culture! **How has God gotten your attention?**

### LEADERS/MEMBERS IN THYATIRA

*Revelation 2:18 "To the angel of the church in Thyatira write: The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are like burnished bronze, says this:"*

Thyatira was in a fertile plain between the Aegean Sea and the city of Pergamum. Originally a garrison city populated mostly by soldiers of Alexander the Great, Thyatira was to serve as a military outpost to protect the Roman Capital of Asia Minor. This became a major trading city where a dozen guilds produced, traded, and sold goods. Each trade guild had its guardian god who the heathen people worshiped. Festivals, feasts, wine, and immoral activities were part of the worship. Those who abstained were ridiculed, persecuted, and forced out of the workplace, out of society. Some members of Christ's church attempted to serve both GOD and the pagan deity. Compromise stifled their spiritual growth while bringing condemnation from the culture. The eyes of the exalted Lord, like the flame of fire, like two lasers, look with penetrating gaze into the depths of His church (Hebrews 4:13). Christ's feet appearing like burnished bronze is a picture of His judgment, moving through His church, chastening sin. **Have you observed a church practicing self-discipline?**

### COMMENDATION

*Revelation 2:19 "I know your works- your love, faithfulness, service, and endurance. I know that your last works are greater than the first."*

The Lord praised them for being a lampstand, a light-bearer, and for their service to the brethren. They were enduring through increased persecution. **How has the Lord commended you for faithfulness?**

### CONDEMNATION

*Revelation 2:20 "But I hold this against you: You tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and teaches and deceives my servants to commit sexual immorality and to eat meat sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent..."*

The name Jezebel has become a synonym for seduction to idolatry and immorality (1Kings 16:31). Satan lures people into mixing sensual behavior with worship and service. The result is sickness, suffering, and early spiritual and physical death. The next generation inherits this affliction. **What is the antidote for this apparent generational curse?**

### EXHORTATION

*Revelation 2:24-25 "I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold to this teaching, who haven't known the deep things of Satan, as they call them. - I place no other burden on you. But hold fast to what you have until I come."*

The temptation is to try the lures of Satan and the culture, seeking understanding. This is likened to trying strong drink or nicotine thinking you can stop at any time (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14). **What has experience taught you that was at an extreme cost?**

### PROMISE

*Revelation 2:26 and 2:28*

The overcomer is promised the Spirit of Christ now; then a leadership position in His heavenly kingdom.

### A PRAYER

Father God: Thank You for revealing the mystery of Your provision during my life and Your promise for eternity. Amen!