

The Canadian *Lord's Day* Association

Bible Course

Acts to Revelation

Lesson 72

Name: _____

Read Revelation 2:18-29

The longest letter of the seven is written to the least known church of Thyatira which was 20-40 miles SE of Pergamos. The city had approximately 25,000 people. Thyatira did have a trading center with mandatory trade guilds (bakers, cobblers, tanners). Each guild had a god to which food was offered and immoral acts occurred at the gatherings. Lydia was a member of the small Christian church in this area.



1. Notice Christ's approach to Thyatira: "These things saith the Son of God, who hath his _____ like unto a _____ of _____, and his feet are like _____." This is the first time in the letters that Christ refers to his deity...in church we come face to face with God. We must be reverent and anticipate His words.
2. Christ then gives His assessment of Thyatira:
 - a. "I know thy works, and _____, and _____, and _____, and thy _____, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first." Thyatira has many virtues, is hard-working, warm, fervent, but...
 - b. "I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest (allow) that _____, which calleth herself a _____, to _____ and

_____ my servants to commit
_____ and to eat things _____
unto _____.” Thyatira didn’t speak out against sin.
Some even today say that even though they would not participate in evil, evil
should be tolerated in the name of love. The distinctive qualities of God’s people
were being destroyed and merging with the world.

3. Christ warns that he gave “_____”
to _____ of her fornication,” but
since she did not repent, she will be cast out and killed.

*Are you alive or
is your religion
a shell?*

4. Christ cares about His church and realizes that false
teaching is many times more dangerous than persecution
and martyrdom. The church knew the rules (Acts 15:28-29),
“_____ from meats _____ to
_____, ... from _____.” Jezebel
decided she need not follow the rules. Christ did not therefore give more rules, but
simple said, “I will put upon you _____ other
_____.” But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.”

5. He that overcometh and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give
_____ over the _____ (ruling with
Christ)... And I will give him the morning star (the eternal presence of Christ himself).

6. Thyatira was the opposite of Ephesus. Ephesus had purity of doctrine but left her first
love – no fervency in service and love. Thyatira was loving and serving, but was losing
her biblical soundness. What lesson can we gain from the message to the church in
Thyatira? _____

Read Revelation 3:1-6

Sardis was a major center for trade and traffic, surrounded by
mountains, seemingly impregnable, but later captured and
conquered two times. Then, after some time, Sardis was destroyed

by an earthquake. When John wrote these words, Sardis was recuperating and rebuilding and also again becoming over self-confident. This spirit of self-confidence infiltrated the Christian church. We don't read anything about false doctrine. This church had a reputation of being alive and thriving, but Jesus said the church was dead.

7. Thou hast a name that thou _____, and art _____ . Sardis was depending on its reputation.

8. I have not found thy _____ before God. There is only external beauty, but no substance. Sardis is living for men rather than for God. They had the outward motions of Christianity, but the breathing, living substance of spiritual life was missing. This lack of true spiritual life kills a church.

9. Thou hast a few _____ even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall _____ with _____ in _____ for they are _____. True believers walk with Jesus in white in the midst of a dying church in a dying world.

10. What does walking in white with Jesus and walking worthy mean?

a. White: _____

b. Walking with Christ: _____

c. Walking worthy: _____

11. What lesson can we gain from the message to the church in Sardis? _____

Evaluator_____

Meditation

Spices do not naturally grow in gardens, even in the East. So the fragrant graces of the Spirit are not natural to the heart. They are brought from a far country. They must be carefully watched. They need the stream, and the gentle zephyr. Oh, I fear most of you should hang your heads when Christ begins to speak of fragrant spices in your hearts. Where are they? Are there not talkative, forward Christians? Are there not self-seeking praise-seeking, man-pleasing Christians? Are there not proud-praying Christians? Are there not ill-tempered Christians? Are there not rash, inconsiderate ones? Are there not idle, lazy, bad-working Christians, Lord, where are the spices? Verily, Christ is a bundle of myrrh. Oh, to be like Him. Oh, that every flower and fruit would grow. They must come from above. Many there are of whom one is forced to say, "Well, they may be Christians, but I would not like to be next to them in heaven." Cry for the wind: "Awake, O north wind, and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out."

Taken from Gems of Robert Murray McChesney