Revelation Chapter 2

The Church of Ephesus

Jesus calls them to REPENT

Revelation 2:1-3

Rev 2:1-7

2:1 "To the angel of the church of Ephesus write, 'These things says He who holds the seven stars in His right hand, who walks in the midst of the seven golden lampstands: *(Jesus, as referenced in <u>Rev 1:13 & 20</u>)*

2 "I know your works, your labor, your <u>patience</u>, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have <u>tested</u> those who say they are <u>apostles</u> and are not, and have found them liars; 3 and you have <u>persevered</u> and have patience, and have labored <u>for My</u> <u>name's sake</u> and have not become weary.

These are good comments concerning the works of the Church of Ephesus.

Patience: NT:5281 hupomone (hoop-om-on-ay'); from NT:5278; cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: KJV - enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting).

Tested: NT:3985 peirazo (pi-rad'-zo); from NT:3984; to test (objectively), i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline: KJV - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

Apostles: NT:652 apostolos (ap-os'-tol-os); from NT:649; a delegate; specially, an ambassador of the Gospel; officially a commissioner of Christ ["apostle"] (with miraculous powers): KJV - apostle, messenger, he that is sent.

Persevered: NT:5281 hupomone (hoop-om-on-ay'); from NT:5278; cheerful (or hopeful) endurance, constancy: KJV - enduring, patience, patient continuance (waiting).

<u>for My name's sake – (generally about persecution)</u> <u>Matt 10:22; Matt 19:29; Matt 24:9; Mark 13:13; Luke 21:12; Luke 21:17; John 15:21; Acts 9:16;</u> <u>1 John 2:12; 3 John 7</u>

4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. 5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; <u>repent</u> and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place--<u>unless you repent</u>. 6 But this you have, that you <u>hate the deeds</u> of the <u>Nicolaitans</u>, <u>which I also hate</u>.

What is a Christians first love? Love the Lord your God with all your heart, understanding, soul and strength. <u>Mark12:33</u>, You shall have no other gods before me. <u>Ex20:1-7</u>. The first commandment. This church has fallen away from "loving God first"

<u>Nicolaitans:</u> NT:3531; Nikolaites (nik-ol-ah-ee'-tace); from NT:3532; a Nicolaite, i.e. adherent of Nicolaus: KJV - Nicolaitane.

<u>NT:3532:</u> Nikolaos (nik-ol'-ah-os); from NT:3534 and NT:2994; victorious over the people; Nicolaus, <u>a heretic</u>: KJV - Nicolaus.

iv. The **Nicolaitans**, like all deceivers that come from the body of Christ, claimed "not that they were destroying Christianity, but that they were presenting an improved and modernized version of it." (Barclay)

As false teachers were moving in, **perverting the truth** of the gospel of Jesus Christ. A system known as **Gnosticism** was one of the early systems of belief that permeated the church and began to draw people away into false concepts concerning Jesus Christ. Chuck smith

Nicolaitans: <u>Rev 2:1-7</u> The Nicolaitans were a loose sect who sheltered themselves under the name of Christianity. **They held hateful doctrines**, and they were guilty of hateful deeds, hateful to Christ and to all true Christians; and it is mentioned to the praise of the church of Ephesus that they had a just zeal and abhorrence of those wicked doctrines and practices. (from <u>Matthew</u> <u>Henry's Commentary</u> on the Whole Bible:

NICOLAITANS: they even joined in the <u>"fornication" of the idol feasts</u>, as though permitted by Christ's "law of liberty." The "love feasts" (Jude 12) thus became pagan orgies. The Nicolaitans combined evil "deeds" which Jesus "hates" with evil "doctrine." (from <u>Fausset's Bible</u> <u>Dictionary</u>,

NICOLAITANS: The group is mentioned explicitly only in <u>Rev 2:6,14-15</u>, where it is equated with a group holding <u>"the doctrine of Balaam," who taught Israel "to eat things sacrificed to</u> idols, and to commit sexual immorality." (from <u>Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary</u>,

The Jerusalem council (<u>Act_15:20</u>; <u>Act_15:29</u>), while releasing Gentile converts from legalism, required their abstinence from idol meats and concomitant fornication. The Nicolaitans abused Paul's doctrine of the grace of God into lasciviousness; such seducers are described as followers of Balsam, also in <u>2Pe_2:12-13</u>; <u>2Pe_2:15-19</u>; <u>Jud_1:4</u>; <u>Jud_1:7-8</u>; <u>Jud_1:11</u> (*"the son of Bosor" for Beor, to characterize him as "son of carnality": bosor "flesh"*). They persuaded many to escape obloquy by yielding as to "eating idol meats," which was then a test of faithfulness (compare 1 Corinthians 8 and <u>1Co_10:25-33</u>); they even joined in the "fornication" of the idol feasts, as though permitted by <u>Christ's "law of liberty."</u> The "lovefeasts" (Jud_1:12) thus became pagan orgies. The Nicolaitans combined evil "deeds" which Jesus "hates" with evil "doctrine." (*Fausset*)

7 <u>He who has an ear</u>, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who <u>overcomes</u> I will give to eat from the <u>tree of life</u>, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God." ' NKJV

Reference Verses:

<u>He who has an ear:</u> mentioned 8 times in the entire Bible. Six times spoken to the Churches by Christ. One time mentioned in <u>Rev 13:9</u> (speaking of the suffering of Christians at the hand of Anti-Christ)

Overcomes:

There are 11 verses total (7 are spoken to the churches) <u>*1 John 5:4</u>*</u>

For whatever is born of God $\underline{overcomes}$ the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith.

<u>1 John 5:5</u>

Who is he who **<u>overcomes</u>** the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

<u>Joh 16:33</u>

Joh 16:33 These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

Tree of Life (10 verses- 3 in Gen, 4 in Proverbs, and 3 in Rev.)

<u>Gen 3:24</u> So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to <u>the tree of life.</u> (no longer does mankind have access to eternal life)

<u>*Rev 21:10*</u> And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

<u>*Rev 22:1*</u> And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb.

<u>*Rev 22:2*</u> In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, <u>*was* the tree of life</u>, which bore twelve fruits, each *tree* yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

Rev 22:5 There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. <u>And they shall reign forever and ever</u>.

<u>Rev 22:14</u>

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the **tree of life** and may enter through the gates into the city.

Church in Smyrna

Jesus does not call them to REPENT

<u>Rev 2:8</u>

8 "And to the angel of the **church in Smyrna** write, 'These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life: *(Jesus, as referenced in <u>Rev 1:17-18</u>)*

<u>Rev 2:9</u>

9 "I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a *synagogue of Satan.* (see attached study)

<u>Reference Verses:</u>

Tribulation & Poverty: prophecy = future not past Rev:1:3 Rev 13:16-17

He also <u>forced</u> everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, 17 so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name. (from New International Version) Observe: the 2^{nd} beast forced everyone to take the mark.

<u>Who are they that say they are Jews and are not?</u> (See reference study Synagogue of Satan)(mentioned twice)

<u>Rev 2:10</u>

10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to <u>suffer</u>. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation <u>ten days</u>. <u>Be faithful until death</u>, and I will give you the <u>crown of life</u>.

Faithful until death: Refer to attached study "2021 Christian Persecution in the World" Also, refer to *Foxe's Book of Martyrs* first published in 1563 and updated in 1830.

Reference Verses:

Luke 21:14-15

But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. 15 For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. (From New International Version)

Matt 10:17-20

17 "Be on your guard against men; they will hand you over to the local councils and flog you in their synagogues. 18 On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. 19 But when they arrest you, <u>do not worry about what to say</u> <u>or how to say it</u>. At that time you will be given what to say, 20 for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. (from New International Version)

<u>Matt 24:9</u>

9 Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for *My* name's sake.*NKJV*

Mark 13:9-11

9 But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues. You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them. 10 And the gospel must first be preached to all the nations. 11 But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. NKJV

Luke 21:12-19

12 But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name's sake. 13 But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. 14 Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; 15 for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. 17 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. 18 But not a hair of your head shall be lost. 19 By your patience possess your souls. NKJV

Acts 2:1-21

2:1 Now when the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues (languages: refer to Strong's below), as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling

in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our own tongues (languages) the wonderful works of God." 12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?" 13 Others mocking said, "They are full of new wine." *(there will be scoffers at every sign and wonder and event of prophesy)* <u>2Chron 36:15-18: PS 73:6-9; Acts 13:38-41;2 Peter 3: 3-7; Jude 17-24</u> 14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all

who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

Joel 2:28-31

17'And it shall come to pass in the <u>last days</u>, says God, That I will pour out of **My Spirit on all flesh**; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants **I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy**. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. 21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.' NKJV (7th Trumpet)

Tongues: NT:1100 **glossa** (gloce-sah'); of uncertain affinity; the tongue; by implication, <u>a</u> <u>language</u> (specially, one naturally unacquired):KJV - tongue. (Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

<u>Rev 2:11</u>

11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death." '

<u>Overcomes:</u> <u>Refer to study notes above; Rev 2:7 Church of Ephesus</u> There are 11 verses total (7 are spoken to the churches)

<u>SECOND DEATH:</u>

(only mentioned 4 times in the entire Bible, all in revelation)

Revelation 2:11

11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the <u>second death</u>. (from New International Version)

Revelation 20:6

6 Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection<u>. The second death has no</u> **power over them**, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years. (from New International Version)

Revelation 20:14

14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire<u>. The lake of fire is the second death.</u> (from New International Version)

Revelation 21:8

8 But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars-their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. **This is the second death.**" (from New International Version)

<u>Matt 10:28</u>

28 And <u>fear not them which kill the body</u> but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. KJV

Church in Pergamos

Jesus calls them to REPENT

<u>Rev 2:12-13</u>

12 "And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, 'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword <u>Heb 4:12</u> 13 "I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. (Jesus, as referenced in <u>Rev 1:16</u>)

SATAN'S THRONE

Of Pergamum an ancient writer said **it was "given to idolatry more than all Asia**." The high hill behind it was adorned with **numerous temples**, among which was the great temple to Zeus, who was called Soter Theos, the Saviour God. Pergamum was the first city in Asia to erect a temple to Augustus. It was famous for its medical schools; and Asclepius, god of health, symbolized by a serpent, was worshiped there. Ramsay says, "Beyond all cities in Asia Minor, it gives the traveler the impression of being the home of authority." How appropriate, then, that here, as we are told, **was Satan's throne**. (from The Wycliffe Bible Commentary, Electronic Database. Copyright (c) 1962 by Moody Press)

Rev 2:13 (continued)

And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which <u>Antipas</u> (*the Christian*) was My faithful <u>martyr</u>, (*witness*) who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

Antipas: NT:493 Antipas (an-tee'-pas); contracted for a compound of NT:473 and a derivative of NT:3962; Antipas, <u>a Christian</u>: KJV - Antipas. NT:473 anti (an-tee'); a primary particle; <u>opposite</u>, i.e. instead or because of (rarely in addition to): KJV - for, in the room of. Often used in composition to denote contrast, requital, substitution, correspondence, etc. NT:3962 pater (patayr'); apparently a primary word; <u>a "father"</u> (literally or figuratively, near or more remote): KJV - father, parent.

Martyr: NT:3144 martus (mar'-toos); of uncertain affinity; <u>a witness</u> (literally [judicially] or figuratively [genitive case]); by analogy, a "martyr": KJV - martyr, record, witness.

Observe: So far, Christ has praised the Church in Pergamos.

<u>Rev 2:14</u>

14 But I have <u>a few things against you</u>, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of <u>Balaam</u>, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to <u>eat things sacrificed to idols</u>, and to <u>commit sexual immorality</u>.

<u>Balaam</u>

<u>Num 22:22-35</u>

I. Here is God's displeasure against Balaam for undertaking this journey: God's anger was kindled **because he went**, v. 22. Note, (from Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible: *New Modern Edition, Electronic Database. Copyright (c) 1991 by Hendrickson Publishers, Inc.)*

Balaam, at first, was prohibited by God from going. He was again sent for by the king and again refused, but was, at length, allowed to go. <u>He yielded to the temptations of riches and honor</u> which Balak set before him; but God's anger was kindled at this manifestation of determined self-will, and the angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary against him. See <u>2Pe_2:15</u>. (Smith's dictionary of Bible names)

<u>2Pe 2:15</u> They have forsaken the right way and gone astray, following the way of <u>Balaam</u> the son of Beor, <u>who loved the wages of unrighteousness</u>;

<u>Rev 2:15-16 (continued)</u>

15 Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the <u>Nicolaitans</u>, which thing I hate. 16 <u>Repent</u>, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the <u>sword of My mouth</u>. (*Nicolaitans, turning the "liberty of Christ" into lasciviousness*)

sword of My mouth

<u>Eph_6:17</u> And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; <u>Heb_4:12</u> For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Rev 2:17 (continued)

17 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat.

OT:4478 man (mawn); from OT:4100; literally, a **whatness** (so to speak), i.e. manna (so called from the question about it): KJV

<u>Exo_16:31</u> And the house of Israel called its name Manna. And it was like white coriander seed, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

<u>Joh 6:56</u> He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. <u>Joh 6:57</u> As the **living** Father sent Me, and I <u>live</u> because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will <u>live</u> because of Me. <u>Joh 6:58</u> This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will <u>live forever</u>."

And I will give him a <u>white stone</u>, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.

White Stone

White Stone is only written once in the entire Bible. <u>"psephos"</u> is the Greek word. It is only seen two other verses in the Bible. <u>Rev 13:16</u> "psephos" = <u>"Calculate"</u> the number of his name <u>Acts 26:10</u> "psephos" = "vote" I cast my <u>"vote"</u> against them

White Stone, Vote, Calculate: NT:5586

psephos (psay'-fos); from the same as NT:5584; a pebble (as worn smooth by handling), i.e. (by implication of use as a counter or ballot) a verdict (of acquittal) or ticket (of admission); **<u>a vote:</u>** KJV - stone, voice.

<u>Act 26:10</u> This I also did in Jerusalem, and many of the saints I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I cast my <u>vote</u> against *them*. <u>Act</u> <u>26:11</u> And I punished them often in every synagogue and compelled *them* to blaspheme; and being exceedingly <u>enraged</u> against them, I persecuted *them* even to foreign cities.

<u>*Rev* 13:16</u> He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand or on their foreheads, <u>*Rev* 13:17</u> and that no one may buy or sell except one who

has the mark or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. <u>*Rev 13:18*</u> Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding <u>calculate</u> the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man: His number *is* 666.

The Church in Thyatira (The divided Church)

Rev 2:18-20 (continued)

18 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write,

'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass: (*Jesus, as referenced in <u>Rev 1:14-15</u>*)

This message is to the WHOLE Church

19 "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first.

(For this church their patience is more than love, service and faith. Again, these are good things that Christ approves of this church-refer to topical study "be patient")

<u>These verses are directed to the portion of Church that is Corrupt.</u> Jesus calls this portion of the Church to <u>REPENT</u>

20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that <u>woman</u> <u>Jezebel</u>, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit <u>sexual immorality</u> and eat things sacrificed to idols.

Jezebel: Jezebel was a bad girl: She murdered God's prophets, <u>1 Kings 18:2-5</u> tried to murder Elijah, <u>1 Kings 19:1-2</u> she had a neighbor murdered for his vineyard, <u>1Kings 21:11-16</u> she practiced idolatry and witchcraft. <u>2Kings9:22</u> Jezebel is being used here as a <u>"type"</u>. She is referred to throughout Revelation and end-time prophesy and compared to the harlot that sits upon the waters, the whore, the prostitute, the fornicator who is the city Babylon <u>Rev17:18; Rev18:9</u>.

<u>*1 Kings 21:25-26*</u> (There was never a man like Ahab, who sold himself to do evil in the eyes of the LORD, <u>urged on by Jezebel his wife.</u> (from New International Version)

<u>2 Kings 9:22</u> "How can there be peace," Jehu replied, "as long as all the <u>idolatry</u> and witchcraft of your mother Jezebel abound?" (from New International Version)

Fornication is the same as <u>Adultery</u> which is figuratively <u>Idolatry</u> which is the reason the church of the latter day that is deceived by the anti-Christ is called the <u>Harlot</u>. This is why Christ says <u>"come out of her my people so that you will not share in her sins, Rev18:4-5</u>.

Rev 2:21 (continued) The Church in Thyatira

21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

The sexual immorality can be viewed as literally and figuratively, (idolatry by the bride of Christ- the apostasy or falling away) here is symbolically speaking of betraying the role of Christ's Bride and becoming the harlot who sits on the waters. Rev 9:13; Rev 9:20-21; Rev 11:2-4; Rev 18:4

Rev 2:22 (continued) The Church in Thyatira

22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed., and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds

(literally and figuratively)

This sentence refers to the harlot spoken of in <u>Rev 19:2</u> For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her. "NKJV Then, all who accepts the mark will be given to the 7 bowls of God's wrath that Daniel said would last 3 1/2 years but <u>Rev 15:1; Matt 24:21-27; Mark 13:19-23</u> says has been shortened to 5 months. She, the great city Babylon, is destroyed in one hour.

Rev 16:17; Rev 17:15-16; Rev 17:18; Rev 18:3; Rev 18:10; Ezek 16:29-38

Rev 2:23 (continued) The Church in Thyatira

23 I will kill her children (the harlot's) with death (this is referring to the second death, the death of the soul, <u>Rev 2:11; Rev 20:6; Rev 20:14; Rev 21:8</u> this judgement will not <u>Rev20:11-15</u> occur until the end of the millenium), and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts <u>Eccl 12:13-14; Rom 8:27</u>. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

Works!!!!!

Did I read that correctly??? Christ will give to each according to their WHAT? Did He say Faith? No, He said works. WHY??? Jas 2:14-18

Jas 2:26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

<u>*Rev20:11-15*</u> And the dead were judged according to their works,

So, this indicates that those who have committed fornication spiritually (taken the mark) and has become part of the apostasy are considered spiritually dead and will be judged on their works and not on their faith, unless they REPENT.

Rev 2:24 (continued) The Church in Thyatira

24 Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. 25 But hold fast what you have till I come. 26 And he who <u>overcomes</u>, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—

Observe: Jesus has divided the church of Thyatira into two groups: those who are Jezebels "sexually immoral or figuratively the Harlot" and those who are not. Those who have not become part of "the Harlot" who will not accept the mark of the beast <u>Rev13:11-18</u> are instructed to hold on to what you have until Christ returns.

Rev 20:4 And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then *I saw* the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God,

who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received *his* mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

Rev 20:5 But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. <u>This is</u> the first resurrection.

27 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels'-- as I also have received from My Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star. 29 **"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches**." '

Observe: The churches of Smyrna and Philadelphia know and understand this doctrine v24 and they are praised by Christ, then, "part" of the church of Thyatira does not know this doctrine and they are considered "the Harlot" and spiritually have betrayed Christ, who is symbolically the Bridegroom.

LEGEND

<u>Rev 20:5</u> = Reference Scripture chapter & verse have betrayed = Tony's commentary or notes NT:3498 nekros (nek-ros'); = Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance I also have received = words spoken by Jesus NKJV

END OF CHAPTER 2