

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST SERIES

RLJ-801

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PART 5: UNTO THE ANGEL OF THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA

CHAPTER TWO: THE CITY OF THYATIRA

This is a city located in the interior of what is today Turkey in the fertile plain on the Great Zab River. The city was originally called Pelopia and most likely founded by the Lydians. Around 290 B.C., it became a Macedonian colony and was renamed Thyatira. It was used as a military stronghold after the break up of the Greek Empire. In 190 B.C., it became part of the Kingdom of Pergamos, and when this kingdom was turned over to the Roman Empire, it became a Roman city of trade. The road from Pergamos to Laodicea went through Thyatira. Today the city is known as Ahkisar.

The city had an unusual large number of trade guilds (trade unions), including bronze smiths. The water in the city was unusually good for dyeing clothing material, and it had a thriving Purple Cloth Company, of which Lydia was a sales representative working in the city of Philippi (Acts 16:12-14). Since the head gear (fez) was worn by most of men in the area, the Purple Cloth Company in Thyatira was prosperous, since they were to be as brilliantly scarlet as possible.

One of the gods worshiped in the city was that of Apollo (the sun god) also known as Tyrimnos. There was also a temple of Artemis, the goddess of wild animals, the hunt, vegetation and child birth. She was also known as Diana, and worshiped in Ephesus. Artemis was the daughter of the gods Zeus and Leto and the twin sister of Apollo. Artemis or Diana was the inspiration of dances, where she danced with nymphs in mountains, forest and marshes. This is where we are getting the word "nymphomania."

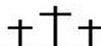
At this time that the book of Revelation was given to the Apostle John, temple prostitutes were common and part of the pagan rituals. This had crept into the church in Thyatira. It is also important to know that Christians at this time the did not have a central place of worship, but met in homes in bad weather and outside in meadows or at the rivers when the weather was warm.

VERSE 18

The description of Jesus himself is repeated of what we read in chapter one, and we also find a similar description in **Daniel 10:5-6**.

VERSE 19

The church was commended for its works, love and service, faith and patience, with emphasis on works.



VERSE 20

But the church had not dealt with Jezebel, a woman prophetess. **1 Kings 16:29-33; 1 Corinthians 10:18-22**

VERSE 21

The woman must have been part of the church and been convicted by the Holy Spirit to repent. A reprobate mind was the result. **Romans 1:21-32**

VERSE 22

This woman was leading a following, where she led them into sexual perversions and spiritual adultery. **2 Thessalonians 2:10-12**

VERSE 23

The children or converts to this woman were to be killed by God. Before there is a physical death, there is spiritual death, and we see evidence of this all around us with addiction of all types of drugs (including alcohol), the destruction of marriages and the early death of people who die in their sins. **Exodus 20:1-5**

VERSE 24

To those who were not involved with this woman and her group, Jesus was not going to put anything else on them.

VERSE 25

They were to hold fast until Jesus came back. **Ephesians 6:10-13**

VERSE 26

If we are faithful in this life, we will rule with God in the next phase when Jesus comes back. **Revelation 20:1-4**

VERSE 27

Today men have a choice to obey or disobey. The day will come when Jesus will rule with the rod of iron. **Revelation 19:15**

VERSE 28

Jesus is the morning star. **Revelation 22:16**

VERSE 29

Do you have an ear to hear with? **Matthew 13:13-23**

Do you really have an ear to hear with?