

Trading Thyatira

Revelation 2:18-29

David Rountree

1. Thyatira was trading faithfulness to God for a compromise with the world.
2. Acts 16:12-14 reminds us of a woman of Thyatira who sold purple cloth.

CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY (v. 18-20)

1. Just because you are doing a lot of church work and doing it fairly well does not mean you are necessarily pleasing God. In what ways might a church be growing but not pleasing God?
2. In what ways might we ignore error for love's sake? In what ways might we ignore love for the sake of pure doctrine?
3. Why does God give us the descriptions of Christ in v. 18 that he had previously mentioned in 1:14, 15?
4. What are some ways we let our Christian activity hide our sin?

COMPROMISING ACTIVITY (20-23)

1. Moral impurity is still a way of life today. Do we think God doesn't notice?
2. The name Jezebel may be a symbolic name referring to anyone like the Old Testament Jezebel which led the people of God astray (1 Kings 16:31; 18:4,13,19; 19:1,2).
3. What kinds of immorality are being condoned or tolerated in the church today?
4. Jezebel needed to repent and she was given opportunity, but she didn't repent (see Rom. 2:4-6).
5. Compare v.20 with Eph. 4:2. How do we know what to tolerate and what not to tolerate?
6. From verse 21, how do we know when growth and blessings are not good for the church?
7. What are the consequences of failing to repent of our compromising (v. 22, 23)?
8. From v. 23, do our children suffer because of our sin? In what ways? Let us not be the victims here—let us repent and be saved from our sinful inheritance (1 Pet. 1:18).

LOYAL ACTIVITY (v. 24-29)

1. There were a few Christians in Thyatira who saw the dangers of worldly compromise and avoided it through loyal activity.
2. How do we avoid the deep things of Satan (v.24)?
3. "Authority over the nations" is given to the overcomers of compromise (v. 26-29). Christ shares his authority with those who overcome (cf. 1 Cor. 6:2; Rev. 12:5).
4. The "Morning Star" = Christ (v. 28; Rev. 22:16).