

~**THYATIRA (158)**

(Thy-a-ti'ra)

.. **Christ's Message To Thyatira Congregation**

- The city rebuilt early in the **Third Century B.C.E.** by the former general of Alexander the Great, Seleucus Nicator. It was situated about 60 kilometers (40 miles) inland from the Aegean Sea along a tributary of the Gediz or ancient Hermus River, in western Asia Minor.
- **Thyatiras** Christian congregation received a message written by the hand of the apostle John at the dictation of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Saying; What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven congregations, in Ephesus and in Smyrna and in Pergamum and in **Thyatira** and in Sardis and in Philadelphia and in Laodicea. (**Revelation 1:11**)
- **Thyatira** today is called **Akhisar** and is located about 250 kilometers (155 miles) South-Southwest of Istanbul and about 375 kilometers (233 miles) East of Athens.
- This city was never a great metropolis or a center of special political significance or importance, but it was a wealthy industrial center, noted for its numerous crafts, including weaving, dyeing, brass-working, tanning, and pottery making.
- Its dye business is frequently mentioned in inscriptions. Dyemakers of **Thyatira** used madder root as a source for their celebrated scarlet or purple color, known in later times as Turkey red.
- Lydia, converted to Christianity during Paul's first visit to Philippi in Macedonia, was a **seller of purple**, of the city of **Thyatira**.
- She may have been an overseas representative of **Thyatiran** manufacturers, a business-woman of some means who owned a house spacious enough to entertain Paul and his companions during their stay in Philippi.
- And from there to Philippi, a colony, which is the principal city of the district of Macedonia. We continued in this city, spending some days. (**Acts of Apostles 16:12**)

- And on the Sabbath day we went forth outside the gate beside a river, where we were thinking there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and began speaking to the women that had assembled. (**Acts of Apostles 16:13**)
- And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of **Thyatira** and a worshiper of God, was listening, and Yehowah opened her heart wide to pay attention to the things being spoken by Paul. (**Acts of Apostles 16:14**)
- Now when she and her household got baptized, she said with entreaty; If you men have judged me to be faithful to Yehowah, enter into my house and stay. And she just made us come. (**Acts of Apostles 16:15**)
- When and by whom Christianity was first introduced to the **Thyatirans** is not known. There is no record that Paul or other evangelists ever visited the city or that Lydia returned there.
- Possibly the message reached there during the two years circa **53-55 C.E.**, that Paul was active in Ephesus about 115 kilometers (70 miles) Southwest of **Thyatira**, for during that time all those inhabiting the district of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.
- This took place for two years, so that all those inhabiting the district of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. (**Acts of Apostles 19:10**)
- What is known is that some 40 years later there was a rather vigorous congregation of Christians in **Thyatira**.
- By inspiration I came to be in the Lords day, and I heard behind me a strong voice like that of a trumpet. (**Revelation 1:10**)
- Saying; What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven congregations, in Ephesus and in Smyrna and in Pergamum and in **Thyatira** and in Sardis and in Philadelphia and in Laodicea. (**Revelation 1:11**)

.. Christ's Message To Thyatira Congregation

- This congregation, the fourth of the seven to receive its message, was commended for the love, faith, and endurance it had shown. Its

ministry was also approved, its deeds of late are more than those formerly.

- But, though the congregation had these commendable qualities, a very bad condition had also been allowed to develop and remain within this congregation. In this regard the Lords condemnation declared:

- You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and misleads my slaves to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed to idols.

- This **woman** was probably given the name Jezebel because her wicked conduct resembled that of Ahab's wife, and because of her callous refusal to repent.

- It seems, however, that only a minority of the **Thyatira** congregation approved this Jezebel influence, since the message went on to speak to the rest of you who are in **Thyatira**, all those who do not have this teaching, the very ones who did not get to know the deep things of Satan.

- And to the angel of the congregation in **Thyatira** write. These are the things that the Son of God says, he who has his eyes like a fiery flame, and his feet are like fine copper. (**Revelation 2:18**)

- I know your deeds, and your love and faith and ministry and endurance, and that your deeds of late are more than those formerly. (**Revelation 2:19**)

- Nevertheless, I do hold this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and misleads my slaves to commit fornication and to eat things sacrificed to idols. (**Revelation 2:20**)

- And I gave her time to repent, but she is not willing to repent of her fornication. (**Revelation 2:21**)

- Look! I am about to throw her into a sickbed, and those committing adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. (**Revelation 2:22**)

- And her children I will kill with deadly plague, so that all the congregations will know that I am he who searches the kidneys

and hearts, and I will give to you individually according to your deeds. ([Revelation 2:23](#))

- However, I say to the rest of you who are in **Thyatira**, all those who do not have this teaching, the very ones who did not get to know the deep things of Satan, as they say; I am not putting upon you any other burden. ([Revelation 2:24](#))
- Just the same, hold fast what you have until I come. ([Revelation 2:25](#))
- And to him that conquers and observes my deeds down to the end I will give authority over the nations. ([Revelation 2:26](#))
- And he shall shepherd the people with an iron rod so that they will be broken to pieces like clay vessels, the same as I have received from my Father. ([Revelation 2:27](#))
- And I will give him the morning star. ([Revelation 2:28](#))
- Let the one who has an ear hear what the spirit says to the congregations. ([Revelation 2:29](#))