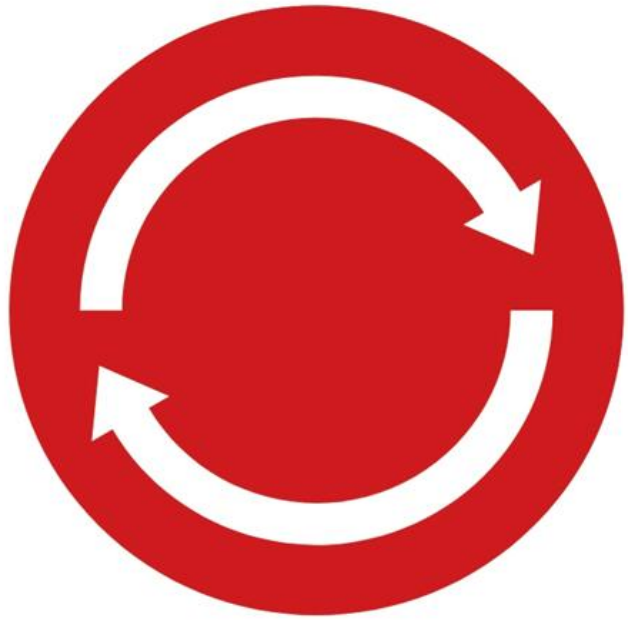


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Rediscovering What the Church Was Born to Be

The Church at Thyatira

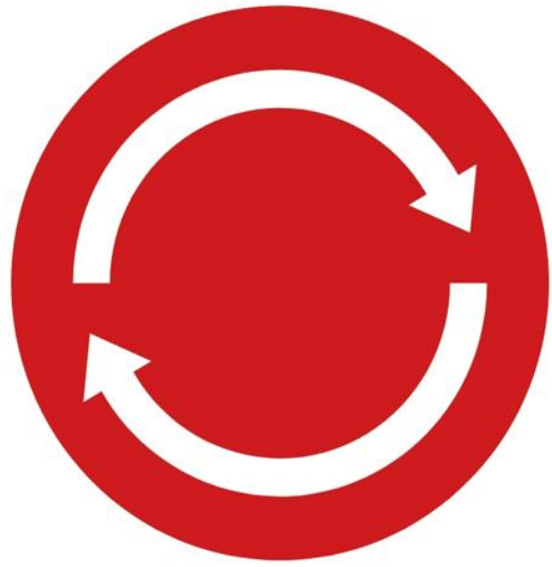
(Rev. 2:18-29)



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***Back to the
manufacturer's
original design
specifications***





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Thyatira was the smallest city of the seven but received the longest letter. Heavily influenced by the capital city of Pergamum, unsurprisingly Christ's analyses of both are very similar.

- On a vital connecting road in the province**
- Famous for its purple cloth—Lydia's hometown**
- Home of some influential and powerful trade guilds.**



Christ's Character v. 18

Christ refers to Himself as the *Son of God*, which is the only time that title is used in Revelation.

- **Flaming eyes** refer to anger over sin and a stare that penetrates the thoughts and intents of men.
- **Feet like bronze** refer to the immoveable power of the Risen Christ.
- Church was in danger of facing judgment for sin.



Christ's Compliment v. 19

Christ compliments the church for being stronger than it had been in the past.

- **Their work was characterized by faith, love, service, and endurance.**
- **They put their beliefs to action.**
- **As a result, the church was growing, but it had a huge internal problem.**



Christ's Criticism (vs. 20-22a)

No amount of loving and sacrificial works can compensate for the toleration of sin.

- **“Jezebel” was a compromiser who wanted change the way the church functioned and behaved.**
- **Thyatira not only tolerated evil, but seemed proud of it and was unwilling to repent.**
- **Compare Ephesus and Thyatira**
 - **Unloving Orthodoxy vs. Loving Licentiousness**



Christ's Command (vs.22b-25)

- **If they do not repent and deal with the sin in the church, the Lord will judge them and bring discipline . . . and death.**
 - **Lose their witness and source of power**
- **To the faithful, “Hold on . . . until I come.”**
 - **Your reward is coming.**
 - **First mention of Christ's Return in the book.**
 - **Promised they would reign with Him.**



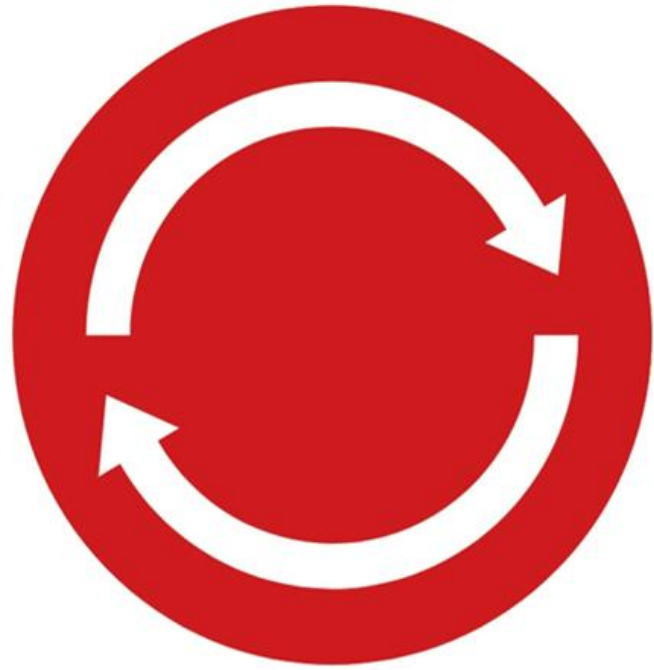
Christ's Commitment (vs.26-29)

“Morning star”—Christ will give Himself to those who remain faithful. He would be with them in persecution and insure their ultimate victory over sin, death, and Satan. (2 Peter 1:19; Rev.22:16)

- *The morning star shines in the dark hour that precedes dawn. It becomes a message of hope: “the darkness will pass, a new day is dawning”*

Herschel Hobbs





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