

MOTIVES AND ACTIONS

Revelation 2:18-29

Introduction:

- A. Biblical information about Thyatira – Acts 16
 - 1. Lydia, a Jewish woman, was from this city – seller of p_____ fabrics
 - 2. The apostle Paul shared the gospel with the women who gathered every Sabbath at the river and Lord o_____ Lydia's heart to accept Christ.
- B. Extra-biblical information about Thyatira
 - 1. A_____ was the chief god of the city.
 - 2. The city had a J_____ population.
- C. In this letter, the topic is about the motives and actions of the leader and the people within the church.

Jesus searches your being constantly

- A. Jesus introduces Himself in this letter as the Son of God who has eyes like a flame of f_____. (compare 2:18 to 1:14).
 - 1. Jesus states that He k_____ their actions, which are deeds of l_____, faith, service, and perseverance (v. 19)
 - 2. Jesus states in verse 23 that ALL the churches will know that He is the one who s_____ the minds and hearts.
 - 3. The symbol of the eyes like a flame of fire is made obvious in this letter – Jesus knows all our actions and all our motives (this is a characteristic unique to God – see Ps 44:21; 94:11; 1Chron 28:9; 2Chron 16:9; Lk 16:15; Rom 8:27; 1Cor 2:10).
- B. Who tried to hide things from Jesus within this church?
 - 1. J_____
 - a. Jesus called her by this name because she paralleled the wicked queen who enticed her husband, King Ahaz, to commit idolatry and immorality.
 - b. She called herself a p_____
 - 2. The l_____ tolerated this woman which Jesus said he should not do.
 - a. Tolerating sin is not an act of l_____

- b. P_____ is not a substitute for dealing with sin.
- c. The leader should have applied the t_____ of a prophet to this woman.
 - 1) Deut 18:22 – 100% of p_____ must come true
 - 2) Deut 13:1-5 – Prophecies cannot contradict God's w_____

C. How might Christians try to hide things from God? By mixing truth with a lie. Determine what truth and lie is in each statement.

- 1. I love that person, so sex is alright.
- 2. I have a right to not forgive that person for the terrible thing that they did to me. They do not deserve my forgiveness.
- 3. You made me lose my temper.

Jesus rewards your doing accordingly

A. Jesus also introduced Himself at the beginning of this letter as *the Son of God whose feet are like burnished bronze*. (this relates to Rev 1:15). - The imagery of testing metals is a commonly used in the Bible for testing our _____ (e.g. I Cor 3:13-15)

- 1. Jesus rewards believers' sinfulness in this life with increasing d_____ designed to bring about repentance.
 - a. He was going to bring great t_____ upon Jezebel and her followers (v.22).
 - b. Jesus gave Jezebel ample time to r_____ (v. 21; see also Heb 12:12).
 - c. If discipline is ignored, the severity could be increased to d_____ (v. 23)
- 2. Jesus will reward believers for their deeds of faith, love, service, and perseverance at His c_____ (v. 25)
 - a. The morning s_____ (v. 29)
 - 1) Jesus calls _____ the bright morning star in Rev 22:16

- a) V_____ is the bright morning star that ushers in the new day (last star seen before sunrise).
- b) Jesus will usher in the new day, where He will r_____ on earth for 1000 yrs (Rev 20:4)
 - 2) Believers will be present with Jesus
- b. A_____ over the nations (vv. 26,27)
 - 1) Jesus alludes to Ps 2:9 where it is prophesied that the S_____ of God will rule the nations with a rod of iron (remember how Jesus introduced Himself in verse 18?)
 - 2) Jesus will rule through believers (Rev 5:9,10; 20:6)
 - 3) Our degree of authority will depend on our degree of f_____ on this earth in serving Christ (1Cor 3:13,14; 2Tim 2:21)

Conclusion:

- A. Jesus can see right through you – eyes like a flame of fire
 1. Make sure that your m_____ in all that you do or say are pure (full of faith, love, service and perseverance).
 2. Be h_____ with the Lord – He knows you better than you know yourself.
- B. Jesus will refine your life – feet like burnished bronze
 1. The Lord is p_____ when you sin, desiring your repentance.
 2. R_____ when He disciplines you, before He increases the discipline to something severe.
 3. Look to what awaits you at the c_____ of Christ – His glorious presence ruling through you.

If anyone has an ear, listen to what the Spirit is saying to you