

**THE JESUS FILES – PART IV**  
**“Thyatira – The Tolerant Church”**  
**Revelation 2:18-29**

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In today’s culture Christians are often branded as intolerant narrow-minded people. It is thought that one of the characteristics of a progressive society is toleration. Christians can respect people that see things differently than we do, whatever the subject matter may be, and be tolerant with them. However, in the church there are some things we can’t tolerate; namely, false prophets who lead God people astray. Today’s teaching expose the danger of tolerating false prophets.

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**#1. JESUS SELF-DESCRIPTION, v. 18**

- A. Jesus is the Son of God
- B. Jesus’ eyes are like blazing fire, 1:14
- C. Jesus’ feet are like burnished bronze, 1:15

**#2. JESUS PRAISES THEM – I KNOW YOUR DEEDS, v. 19**

- A. Jesus knows your love, faith, service, & perseverance
- B. Jesus knows you are doing more than at first

**#3. JESUS HAS AN ISSUE WITH THEM – YOU \_\_\_\_\_ THE \_\_\_\_\_ WOMAN JEZEBEL, vv. 20-23**

- A. Jezebel is a false prophet
- B. Jezebel leads people into sexual immorality
- C. Jezebel leads people into eating food sacrificed to idols
- D. Jezebel teaches Satan’s deep secrets – not God’s, v. 24

**APPLICATION POINTS**

- A. Cult leaders claim to get prophetic words from God that are \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Cult leaders claim they get special revelation from God that \_\_\_\_\_ else gets
- C. Cult leaders demand total \_\_\_\_\_ to their prophetic words which breeds a high degree of \_\_\_\_\_
- D. A There is a prophetic gift today, 1 Cor 14:3, 29
- E. An example from Jethro, Exo 18:17-23

**#4. JESUS BRINGS JUDGMENT ON THOSE WHO ARE \_\_\_\_\_ TO REPENT, vv. 21-23**

- A. Jesus has given her time to repent – but to no avail
- B. Jesus will discipline her – cast her on a bed of suffering
- C. Jesus will discipline her followers with intense suffering unless they repent
- D. Jesus will strike her children dead – woe!

**#5. JESUS’ JUDGMENT SERVES AS AN \_\_\_\_\_ TO THE OTHER CHURCHES, vv. 23b-25**

- A. Jesus lets everyone know that he searches hearts & minds
- B. Jesus lets the everyone know he repays each according to their deeds
- C. Jesus has no other burden for the rest
- D. Jesus encourages their endurance until he comes

**#6. JESUS’ PROMISE TO THE OVERCOMER, vv. 26-29**

- A. Jesus’ victor does his will to the end
- B. Jesus’ victor will be given authority over the nations
- C. Jesus’ victory will rule with an iron scepter
- D. Jesus’ victory will be given the morning star
- E. Jesus’ admonition to hear the Spirit

ANSWERS: Tolerate, Bad, Authoritative, Nobody, Obedience, Control, Unwilling, Example.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Is there anything that strikes you about the city of Thyatira?
2. How does the self-description of Jesus relate to the happenings at Thyatira?
3. Who is responsible for the sin of tolerating Jezebel?
4. Explain how she was misleading Jesus's servants (v. 20)
5. Discuss each of the application points
6. Discuss the discipline Jesus was going to bring on her, those who commit adultery with her, and her children. (v. 22-23)
7. What is significant about v. 23?
8. Discuss the characteristics of the overcomer / victorious ones.
9. What is your takeaway from this teaching?

# *Welcome*

*to*

# *Hillcrest Church*

## *Love, Acceptance & Forgiveness*

*I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.*

*Revelation 2:19*

*September 10, 2023*  
*Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TODAY

Pastor Bruce is continuing his series titled "The Jesus Files."

### CELEBRATION OF OUR NEW ROOF & ELECTRICAL UPGRADES

After the service we will celebrate God's provision of a new roof and electrical upgrades over cake and ice cream. God has done wonderful things in 2023 and it's time to celebrate and thank the Lord.

### ICE CREAM OUTREACH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 6:30PM

Join us at Garbolino park to connect with our neighbors and eat ice cream. What's not to like about ice cream!

### NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD WALK – SEPT 23 at 11:00am

### ONLINE GATHERINGS

The Prayer Meeting: Tuesday at 7pm with Pastor Tim Brooks  
The Bible study: Wednesday at 6:30 – 7:45pm with Pastor Bruce.  
Go to the online meeting room on our website (hillcrestRoseville.com) to access either gathering. If you have a need for prayer don't hesitate to call Pastor Tim Brooks at (916) 872-5207 or email: [timnealbr@gmail.com](mailto:timnealbr@gmail.com)

### WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE NURSERY

See Kathy Brooks for details (916.847.8123). We have a TV in the nursery, so you can watch the whole service while caring for the babies.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com). Consider giving to the building fund so we can continue to upgrade our facility

## THE CITY OF THYATIRA

Each of the churches Jesus is addressing faced challenges that were directly related to their culture. Of the seven cities mentioned in the book of Revelation, less is known about Thyatira, and it is the least remarkable of all the cities. Thyatira was founded by Seleucus I as a military outpost to guard one of the approaches to his empire. It possessed no natural fortifications, so it had to draw heavily on the fortitude and dedication of its soldiers and their martial abilities to defend herself. In 190 BC the city fell to the Romans. With the stable conditions that resulted from becoming part of the Roman empire, she grew and prospered as a manufacturing center. There was an unusually large number of trade guilds there. Inscriptions uncovered through archaeology indicate there were wool workers, linen workers, garment makers, dyers (Lydia in Acts 16:14), leather workers, tanners, potters, bakers, slave dealers, and bronze-smiths.

Allegiance to the patron deities of the trade guilds was tied to the religion of the city and to the place of employment itself. The god Tyrimnos (Apollo to the Greeks) was the guardian of the city and was to be honored by all of the trade guilds at their festivals. This posed to be a difficult situation for the Christians living in Thyatira because they were under pressure to join in the immoral practices associated with the festivals held by the trade guilds. There was a false prophet in the church that led God's people to participate in these festivals that honored other gods? This was a great offense to the Lord Jesus.