The Revelation of

Yeshua The Messiah To Yochanan (John)

Study Notes

Thyatira PT. 1

Revelation 2:18-29 (NASB) - "18 And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and feet like burnished bronze, says this:

¹⁹ 'I know your deeds, and your love and faith, and service and perseverance, and that your deeds of late are greater than at first. ²⁰ But I have this against you, that you tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, and she does not want to repent of her sexual immorality. ²² Behold, I will throw her on a bed of sickness, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of her deeds. ²³ And I will kill her children with plague, and all the churches will know that I am He who searches the himinds and hearts; and I will give to each one of you according to your deeds. ²⁴ But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them—I place no other burden on you. ²⁵ Nevertheless what you have, hold firmly until I come. ²⁶ The one who overcomes, and the one who keeps My deeds until the end, I will give him authority over the nations; ²⁷ AND HE SHALL [i]RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE SHATTERED, as I also have received *authority* from My Father; ²⁸ and I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches "

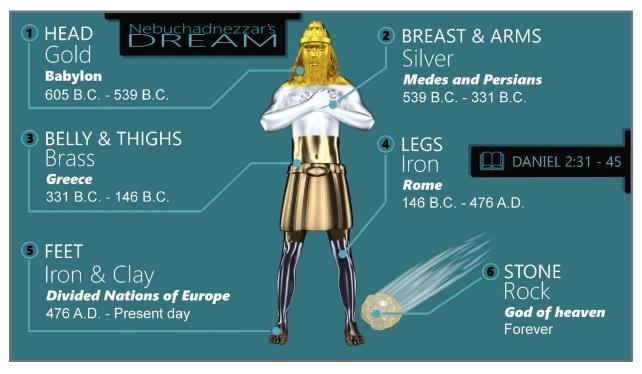
<u>Thyatira:</u> (Roman Catholic Church - 600-1517 AD) - This Church came into existence just as Daniel prophesied based on a dream from Nebuchadnezzar.

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream: (Read Daniel 2 Fully)

- Soothsayer priests, the conjurers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans called to make known the dream and the interpretation.
- No person can interpret your dream.
- King ordered all the wise men of Babylon to be killed.

- Daniel was told of this decree.
- The secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision.

Daniel 2:31-33 (NASB) - "³¹ You, O king, were watching and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary radiance, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. ³² The head of that statue *was made* of fine gold, its chest and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, ³³ its legs of iron, *and* its feet partly of iron and partly of clay."



Rome:

Daniel 2:40 (NASB) – "Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; just as iron smashes and crushes everything, so, like iron that crushes, it will smash and crush all these things."

• Even though not much is left of Thyatira today, Thyatira was a city that flourished and thrived under the Roman Empire.

Daniel 7-Vision of the Four Beast

- Babylon-Lion
- Medo Persia-Bear
- Greece-Leopard with 4 Heads
- Rome-Fierce Beast

• Divided Kingdom-Ten Horns/Little Horn

Note: After Alexander the Great died, 4 Generals divided the Empire amongst themselves and one of them ruled Thyatira.

General Seleucus: One of the 4 Heads



History: Pergamum is the reason it became what it was.

Remember: Pergamum was a city of such great wealth, a royal city with lots of treasures.

- Boasted of Headquarters for Government.
- The most spectacular architectural displays in all of Asia Minor
- It shined above the rest, meaning it needed protection.

Note: Pergamums enemies were always looking to raid the city for its spoils. Thyatira was the answer to keeping invaders out that would try to come in from the east.



- Thyatira was 25 miles East of Pergamum.
- Pergamum invested lots of money and time building up Thyatira.
- Thyatira became Pergamum's Military Outpost.
- Thyatira was small but very wealthy.
- Industry came to Thyatira to support the military.
- Thyatira had the most organized Guilds than any city in the whole 1st century.

Important: Thyatira could boast about one thing that made it stand out from the rest: the color Purple!

- Its fame came from its Purple Cloth.
- This was such a unique and rare commodity that they had a Guild of Purple Dyers.
- Purple was a sign of wealth and royalty, very expensive. Only the highest-level Roman emperors wore sashes of purple because of its rarity.

Artifact-Roman period (1st Century)



Remember: Guilds are associations of different craftsman that were formed to protect their interest. These guilds created great challenges for the Church in Asia Minor.

- They influenced politics.
- They influenced the economy.
- They influenced social circles.
- They influenced religion.

Note: Each Guild has a dedicated pagan god that must be worshipped at the beginning of each meeting.

- They are food offered up to idols.
- Sexual Immorality.
- Drunkenness.

Understanding: It cannot be proven in Scripture that the Apostle Paul went to Thyatira, but they do know his team of missionaries visited this region.

Acts 16:14-15 (NASB) - "¹⁴A woman named Lydia was listening; *she was* a seller of purple fabrics from the city of Thyatira, *and* a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. ¹⁵ Now when she and her household had been baptized, she urged *us*, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay.' And she prevailed upon us."

- Lydia was a native of Thyatira but met Paul in Philippi.
- Lydia was the first convert in Europe.
- Lydia was a woman of wealth and hosted The Apostle Paul's Missionary Team.

Note: Yeshua gave so much honor to women that was taken from them. When they came into the kingdom, He wanted them to know they were equal. He knew that outside of the kingdom, they were looked down upon as property.

Yeshua's Divinity Revealed:

Key: No where else in Revelation is the title <u>"Son of God"</u> used.

Why? Yeshua is letting the Church of Thyatira know: "You must be sure of the authority you are walking in!". He is showing Himself as the Answer and is making know His authority and position as the Son of God – the ONLY Authority that can beat any other authority in the land!

The Rebuke: "That Woman Jezebel"

Who Is Jezebel? (Read I and II Kings)

Note: This is not this woman's real name in Rev. 2:20, but Yeshua saw her to be just as evil as the Jezebel in the Old Testament. It is a title given for a very evil and manipulative woman. A spirit of control and manipulation that can be present on a woman or a man - spirits do not discriminate.

- Men can walk in this spirit as well. The markers of this demon are manipulation and control to the level that it wants to take a top position that it does not rightfully have.
- Yeshua was not insecure in His authority. He said, "I know who I am". Anyone who knows who they are is not intimidated by anyone who is operating in this spirit.



Note: In marrying Ahab, Jezebel was one of several wives, but became the most dominant. She brought with her hundreds of priests, worship centers and idols. It was customary for a foreign princess to bring in her own symbols of religion when marrying into another kingdom and Jezebel took full advantage of that opportunity.

This was in marked contrast to Ruth who, centuries earlier, gave up all the gods of Moab and associated practices to accompany her mother-in-law Naomi to Bethlehem where she would serve the one true living God. She is now listed in the lineage of Yeshua!

A Word from Father by His Spirit: "Just because someone might look manipulative and controlling, you must guard who you label a Jezebel. Some may just need to grow."

Key: "That Woman Jezebel" rose to power because of Christians having their membership revoked and blacklisted from the Trade Guilds.

- They were losing their jobs because they would not worship these other gods.
- Her teachings were teachings of Accommodation.
- She now had an upper hand with Rome in authority.
- Under the Roman Empire you now could no longer just leave a city.
- You had to live where you were assigned to live.

Understanding: Her teachings encouraged them to be accommodating to paganism to keep their jobs. The teaching was manipulating believers and deceiving them into error.

A Word from Father by His Spirit: "The reason why people saw women shouldn't preach or teach is there is a level of insecurity inside of them that has not been dealt with. That person that can teach or preach is so intimidating to them that they have called them Jezebels. Remember: Be SURE of the authority that you walk in."

Remember: Ahab was the King!

- 7th King of Israel in the Northern Kingdom
- Ahab was not a weak king.
- Ahab was one of the strongest men in Israel during his reign.
- Ahab boasted of a great army.

Theory: Many Theologians believe this woman was able to gain such position and authority over the Church in Thyatira because she was the Pastors wife! To take control over this Church and to be given access over them, she had to have power over the Pastor.

Key: Jezebel was the embodiment of everything God said He hated! It shows in her death!

<u>Jezebel Is Killed</u>: 2 Kings 9:33 - Jehu ordered her to be thrown out a window.



2 Kings 9:33-37 (NASB) – "³³ Then he said, 'Throw her down.' So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses, and he trampled her underfoot. ³⁴ When he came in, he ate and drank; and he said, 'See now to this cursed woman and bury her, for she is a king's daughter.' ³⁵ So they went to bury her, but they found nothing of her except **the skull, the feet, and the palms of her hands.** ³⁶ Therefore they returned and informed him. And he said, 'This is the word of the LORD, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, "On the property of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; ³⁷ and the corpse of Jezebel will be like dung on the face of the field in the property of Jezreel, so they cannot say, 'This is Jezebel.'""

Note: It is not like Christ to want to see people killed. He still ensured that this woman was still honored, for she was a king's daughter.

Question: Why did they leave her skull, her feet, palms of her hands?

Answer:

Proverbs 6:16-18 (NASB) – "¹⁶ There are six things that the LORD hates,

Seven that are an abomination to Him:

¹⁷ Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, - (**Her Skull**)

And hands that shed innocent blood, - (Palms of Her Hands)

¹⁸ A heart that devises wicked plans,

Feet that run rapidly to evil," - (Her Feet)

But.... even in this Jesus still wanted her to repent! (Rev. 2:21).

"I gave her space"-(chronos)-of uncertain derivation.

• **Derivation** - the formation of a word from another word, base or root.

Understanding: In other words; Yeshua states "I gave her time to go back to her original roots"! She had *derived* from something that was not what you originally were!

A Word from Father by His Spirit: "Be very guarded in how you treat people who you see as a 'Jezebel'. There are people who have controlling and manipulative spirits but may just need the world off of them. There are those in the kingdom who have called those who operate in strong gifting 'Jezebels' due to their own insecurity and not knowing what a Jezebel truly is. To the men of God: the next time the Lord sends a woman, and you can discern who is not trying to take your spot or tear up the church (still be on guard for the Jezebel spirit); God will send women, men, and young people anointed and called and appointed and chosen. When the insecurity in you rises up, go check and make sure your authority is sure, for no one can come into the house of God and tear up anything unless they go through the head."

Even King Jehu had enough sense to know "We have to bury her, no matter how evil she was. She was a king's daughter".

The End