

## ***Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 50***

### ***The Letter of Jesus to the Church in Thyatira Part 2***

#### ***And I will kill her Children with Death***

***“18 And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write; These things saith the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass; 19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols. 21 And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. 22 Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. 23 And I will kill her children with death; and all the churches shall know that I am he which searcheth the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. 25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come. 26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star. 29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 2:18-29 KJV)***

***“20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.” (Revelation 2:20 KJV)***

***Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee;*** Here the Lord had something against that church of Thyatira. and he is coming mentioning that to them as a request to them to correct them, to repent, and to warn them also of the coming wrath of God and what they are going to face as judgment from God and as discipline from Him to impart repentance, fear of God and holiness. *Christ is not impartial. He will mention the good points and he will mention the bad things and request us and give us the chance to correct ourselves and to repent.*

***because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel:*** Here the warning message to the angel, which mean the minister of the church in Thyatira, because he allowed and he gave a permission to a woman who is called Jezebel to flourish and to settle in the church and cause damage to others. He allowed that women to teach others and to cause them to err in the matter of faith. It was not the leader who was spreading that false teaching but he allowed others to remain in the church who were doing such. The corrupt part of this church is signified by the woman Jezebel. The Old Testament tells us who is Jezebel. She was the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonian, who became the wife of Ahab the king of Israel, and through her the worship of Baal introduced to Israel.

***because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel:*** That does not mean necessarily that the false teachers were women, or that women were dominant and were leading the church in

contradiction to what the Scripture speaks that woman should not teach her husband but to be taught by Him. They could be even male teachers who were following the ways of Jezebel to destroy the work of God as the havoc that Jezebel did. Let us read the following Scriptures from the Old Testament to understand in more details of what Jezebel did and what those false teachers did in the church of Thyatira.

King Ahab the leader married Jezebel ***“31 And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him.” (1 Kings 16:31 KJV)*** The meaning of Jezebel from the Hebrews word ‘zebel’ is ‘dung’, or ‘unchaste’, something unclean and corrupt. Through Jezebel that Ahab married, the worship of Baal was introduced into Israel. Baal was the god of fertility and its worship including performing sexual immoralities.

***Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess:*** Those who were leading the false teaching in the church of Thyatira they were not prophets but they claim for themselves the title of prophets. Here the dangers of giving titles or allowing titles to people who are working in contradiction to the Scriptures that they will cause destructions to others and to the church.

***20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.*** Here those false teachers were teaching and seducing those whom they are teaching, who are the servants of God to commit fornication and eat things sacrificed unto idols. The same of what we had spoken about those who were promoting the doctrine of Balaam in the church of Pergamos. However there are more other false teachings incorporated here when Jezebel name is mentioned.

*The sexual immoralities and fornication in the New Testament church can be found in the form of the phenomena of dating, courting, boyfriend, or girlfriend (even from a distance) because lust in the heart is adultery according to Matthew 5:28 “28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.” \* In addition to that, the extramarital affairs, live-in relationship, allowing single father and single mother to marry other partner and not the father or the mother of her or his child, divorce and remarriage, all these are immoralities. \* I am warning you that if you are doing such, then repent of such things. Also put in your mind that I will not tolerate you and condone you if you are doing any of the above immoral things.*

***And to eat things sacrificed unto idols:*** As we described before, Christmas and New year feast and banquets, celebration of Valentine Day, Father Day, Mother Day, Halloween, Pastor appreciation month, and the rest, all are feast unto idols. These feasts are taken from the world and not from the Scriptures.

Jezebel had done other wicked things. Jezebel promoted and supported the four hundreds false prophets of the grove (who would allow people to do their own will), and the four hundreds and fifty prophets of Baal (who promote people to do sexual immoralities). All these prophets were eating at the table and supported by Jezebel to do evil as we read

here: *“Now therefore send, and gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table.” (1 Kings 18:19 KJV)*

Therefore, the teachers and the prophets in the church in Thyatira who are like Jezebel, are those who are doing evil like Jezebel, and they promote others to do evil and immoralities. *So here the leadership of the church in Thyatira by its passive rule are supported group of evildoers who are hitting the true servants of God who is doing the real work of God and who is combating the work of Satan.*

From studying the life history of Jezebel from the Old Testament we can find out what are the other evil that she did and how the church in Thyatira or the church similar to the church in Thyatira can do evil today against the Lord.

**1. Persecution of the real prophets or real servants of God:** *“Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD's prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water?” (1 Kings 18:13 KJV)* Obadiah informed Elijah that Jezebel was working out to finish the life and the ministry of the one hundred true prophets of God. *Those who carry the teaching of Jezebel they will persecute and will try to end the ministry of the true servants of God who teach and discipline against all the immoralities and against eating food offered to idols that we mentioned above.*

**2. They will fight back if you will hit the false teaching that they are promoting.** Jezebel was even tried to kill the prophet Elijah who executed the judgment of God on the prophets of Baal and the prophets of the grove. *“1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time. 3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.” (1 Kings 19:1-3 KJV)* They are dangerous people and will do all what they can to destroy those who are against their false teachings. *We are called to continue to do our ministry with courage even if we are surrounded by people who are criminal and evil doers.*

**3. They have greed and they will use politics and conspire against the true servants of God to take away their inheritance and their ministry from them:** Like what Jezebel did to take the vineyard of Naboth, *“1 And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. 2 And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money. 3 And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee. 4 And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread. 5 But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread? 6 And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it:*

*and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard. 7 And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite. 8 So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth. 9 And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people: 10 And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die. 11 And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them. 12 They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people. 13 And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. 14 Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead. 15 And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead. 16 And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it.” (1 Kings 21:1-16 KJV)* Here Naboth refused to give the vineyard because it is an inheritance of his father and he will handover it to his descendents. The Lord forbids that he will give his vineyard to Ahab. *In the same way, God forbid us to give our ministry to others who use the church offices and the church government to manipulate us, and to corrupt it and use it to boast, to promote immoralities, idol worship, greed, for making money, businesses inside the church, and other injustices.*

Thyatira is mean theater, a playing church, performing drama, people who are leading are with masks on their faces and doing evil things as if God is not there and watching over everything. They will do even prayer and fasting, and they will have holiness on faces only, but conspiracy, manipulation, and wickedness are inside them to do mischief against the true servants of God to destroy them and destroy their ministries. They will use the positions and offices inside the church to make money and earn living and hinder those who are faithful from taking such positions, grabbing their ministries, and hindering them from doing the real work of God.

**4. They promote immoralities and witchcraft:** This is what Jehu said to Joram the son of Jezebel before he put him to death: *“21 And Joram said, Make ready. And his chariot was made ready. And Joram king of Israel and Ahaziah king of Judah went out, each in his chariot, and they went out against Jehu, and met him in the portion of Naboth the Jezreelite. 22 And it came to pass, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, Is it peace, Jehu? And he answered, What peace, so long as the whoredoms of thy mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?” (2 Kings 9:21-22 KJV)* Immoralities we already explained how they will do it in the New Testament church. The word whoredoms could be also meaning the spiritual adultery following false gods and pagan practices and introduce them inside the church as we mentioned before; the celebration of birthdays, Christmas, New year, Halloween with the skull symbols, Valentine and promoting dating and courting and immoralities, Father day, Mother day, etc.

About witchcraft this will take place when they will teach rebellion and disobedience to the Word of God, **“For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft.” (1 Samuel 15:23 KJV)** When they are persistence to break the Scriptures they are teaching witchcraft.

**5. Promoting putting make up:** *“And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window.” (2 Kings 9:30 KJV)* Here Jezebel heard that her son was put to death and instead that she will repent, she painted her face, and fixed the hair of her head with a style; it means she did not use a veil to cover herself. She is the first in the Bible mentioned that she painted her face. Such teachers in the church will promote immoralities by promoting putting make up, and enticing men with make up, paints, perfumes and smells and with appealing dress that exposing the body parts.

The letter to the leader of the church of Thyatira was not only to tell him that such workers are allowed to play havoc inside the church, but it is explained to him, that other people who are serving the Lord inside the church were seduced by such teachers and they already starting to follow the ways of false teachers in committing adultery and eating food offered unto idols and in doing other evils as we mentioned above.

**My dear and beloved:** Take heed of the message that you received and repent of all your sins that we mentioned above; promoting immoralities, promoting food offered to idols, greed, politics, murder, taking other people ministry, manipulations, injustice, using the church positions for living, persecuting the true servant of God, promoting make up, painting the faces, using hair style, perfumes, and non decent dress to appeal to the flesh of man to seduce them to do immoralities and to err from faith and offer food sacrificed for idols.

Let us come to Him in repentance. As we meditate on His Word let us renounce our sins and whatever hindrance that take us away from doing what is right and what He wants us to do for Him. Let us do our best to continue to live in holiness, and to continue to focus on the tasks entrusted to us and to do the works that He wants us to do in love, in faith and persevering until the end, until we meet Him in the air and hear from Him, **“Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”**

Let us be alert and discerning of what is going on in the life of our church and ministry. Let us not allow those who promote make up, immoralities, and those who use the church ministry for their own benefit and greed to continue to corrupt others and manipulate them for their own purpose and greed. Let us put an end of corruption and immoralities and injustice in the life of our church and ministries. Let us stand firm against all these challenges and to continue to do the various good works and His services in holiness and in purity, and let us continue to clean ourselves, our families, our disciples and the Church of God and be prepared toward His second coming.

**My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord, thank you for the rebuke that I received from your Word that revived me and made me understand your will and ways and encouraged me to continue to stand firm against corruption, immoralities, false teachings, greed and manipulation in my service and ministry unto you.*

*Confess your sins now to God. Lord forgives me the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ . Repent of flattering, fear of man, compromises, worldliness, lack of service and ministry, and non willingness to perseverance and suffer for Christ's sake.*

*Lord I commit myself to abide with this Word of yours that I receive in this message. Lord I surrender my life and my will fully to you. Lord I commit myself to stand firm against all corruption, greed, false teachings, and the immoralities, the make up, the immodest dress, that the false teachers are trying to introduce into your church.*

*Lord I commit myself to evangelize reaching new people for Christ. Lord I commit myself to do all the good works and the services that you prepared and you wants me to do for you in love, in faith, in patience and in long suffering. Lord give me strength and patience to endure the pressure of the opposition because of your Word. Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit and have me fully to you. Lord give me the gifts of the Holy Spirit so that I can go and serve you and evangelize and reach others and spread your Word and teach those who are willing to follow you.*

*Lord, I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who accepted your Word and are willing to live their lives and serve you and suffer for your Word. Lord protect them and provide all their needs. Lord deliver them from all temptations and the schemes of the devil. Lord work miracles for them and enable them to pass opposition and persecutions, and to endure until you come to take us with you to Heaven.*

*Lord bless us and sustain us as a church. Lord help us, protect us, and provide for us to go on in serving you and do your work and your will. Lord give to us more of the Holy Spirit gifts to evangelize and to reach new people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and with the message of the Word of God. Lord protect us from the persecution that the false teachers, false prophets and false church leaders may inflict on us. Lord, we pray that you will enable us to plant new Bible studies and new congregations for the church and fulfill the vision of the church, 'Multiplication in Peace with Implementing the Whole Will of God'. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us, and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus' name, Amen.*

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