Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 54 The Letter of Jesus to the Church in Thyatira Part 6

"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)

"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." (Revelation 2:23 KJV)

Christ died on the cross and shed his blood for the church to be without wrinkle, blemish and spot. Therefore, when the church is wicked and start to do wicked things the Lord shall use His prophets and His servants to do even terrible things. * <u>Therefore</u> we need to stay where we are to do His work and what He wants us to do. * <u>This we do</u> to bring the judgment of God on the wicked, to let God vengeance to fall on them, and to protect ourselves and the remnants with us, to bring others to the faith, and to give chance to the wicked from the followers of Jezebel and Ahab to repent and serve God.

In the New Testament we can notice some of the terrible things that God allowed His apostle to do and as the following:

1. Peter stood with the Holy Spirit and agreed about the death of Ananias and Sapphira: "1 But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, 2 And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. 3 But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? 4 Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. 5 And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. 6 And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried him out, and buried him. 7 And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. 8 And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. 9 Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out. 10 Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying her forth, buried her by her husband. 11 And great fear came upon all the church, and upon as many as heard these things." (Acts 5:1-11 KJV) What happened is like stoning in the Old Testament. Peter did not say why God is doing such and He did not sympathize with the evil doers. Peter told to the wife of Ananias the following in agreement with the Holy Spirit of God: "behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband are at the door, and shall carry thee out." * When we go along with God, He will do certain things to bring His fear upon His people. He will encourage those who fear Him to continue to do so, and for the wicked to be restrained and refrained from their evil doing. * But if we stand with sinners and sympathise with them corruption will spread more.

2. Peter also rebuked Simon who wanted to buy the gifts of the Holy Spirit by money: "20 But Peter said unto him. Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. 21 Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. 22 Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. 23 For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity." (Acts 8:20-23 KJV) *Here we need to stand with God and stop all those who want to push their own wrong ways to mess the things of God. * Many would try to serve and do ministry not in the prescribed way of God, and they are achieving their own will and not God's will, so we need to be careful to recognize them and to handle them. Sometimes easy to find them, but sometimes they are wearing masks and you cannot see, and sometimes we will know them only with their fruit as Jesus said, "17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. 19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. 20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. 21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." (Matthew 7:17-23 KJV) The evil doers will be manifesting and exposed with what kind of outcome they are achieving. * Here also Jesus said in a clear way to us that even those who do good things of miracles and cast out demons, but as long as they are not doing the will of God the Father, they will not enter the Kingdom of God. * Jesus called them evil doers. So we need to be bold enough and frank to rebuke, and not to fear man and what they will do of harm if we face them. We need to do such so God's church will not be as the church in Thyatira where evil doers will be allowed to grow and do their own evil will.

3. Jesus Christ Himself blinded Saul who was attacking the church: Saul was like the men of Jezebel who attacked Naboth and the true prophets of God. Saul was moving from house to house to arrest the followers of the Lord and put them in prison. Jesus and not devil blinded Saul in order to stop him from harming the saints, and Saul repented upon that and his sight was restored to him after Ananias went to him, "1 And

Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, 2 And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem. 3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. 6 And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. 7 And the men which journeyed with him stood speechless, hearing a voice, but seeing no man. 8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus. 9 And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink. 10 And there was a certain disciple at Damascus, named Ananias; and to him said the Lord in a vision, Ananias, And he said, Behold, I am here, Lord. 11 And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the street which is called Straight, and enquire in the house of Judas for one called Saul, of Tarsus: for, behold, he prayeth, 12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight. 13 Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: 14 And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name. 15 But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel: 16 For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name's sake. 17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized. 19 And when he had received meat, he was strengthened. Then was Saul certain days with the disciples which were at Damascus. 20 And straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God." (Acts 9:1-20 KJV) So Saul was blinded by Jesus and his sight restored to him after he repented, and he started to serve God. We need to agree with God so people will repent and start to serve God with us. Certain times we even need to be cruel to be merciful.

4. <u>Later on, the same Saul who called Paul pronounced God's judgment on Barjesus</u> the false prophets and caused him blindness for a time because he was stopping a <u>man to come to faith</u>: "6 And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus: 7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God. 8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith. 9 Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him. 10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? 11 <u>And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand. 12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the</u> Lord." (Acts 13:6-12 KJV) Paul pronounced the judgment of God on that man and caused him to be blinded immediately. That was needed to be done to that man so that the deputy of the country will come to the Lord. <u>We need to agree with God and do the very drastic thing that God wants us to do, even the very drastic one, so people who are hindered by evil doers and those who cause division will be restrained, and the innocent will come back to the right way of life that God ordained.</u>

5. Paul taught the church to hand over a wicked person to Satan and to expel him from the church: "4 In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, 5 To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. 6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? 7 Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ve are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 9 I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: 10 Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. 11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. 12 For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? 13 But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person." (1 Corinthians 5:4-13 KJV) Certain people should not be staying in the church. We are not called to judge the people in the world, but to judge the believers inside the church. Paul here not only handed over such a person to devil but he instructed them to expel such person from their fellowship. * The following categories should not be staying in God's church: fornicators, covetous on material things, idolators, railers (cheaters), drunkards, and extortioners. * We should not be afraid to expel people and hand them over to Satan to treat them with what they deserve when they refuse to amend their ways with the ways of God. Their bodies will be destroyed by the devil, and that is their discipline, so their souls will be saved.

6. Paul also recommended to hand over to Satan the false teachers who were destroying the faith of the brethren by the false teaching that they were teaching: "18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; 19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: 20 Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme." (1Timothy 1:18-20 KJV) "16 But shun profane and vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness. 17 And their word will eat as doth a canker: of whom is Hymenaeus and Philetus; 18 Who concerning the truth have erred, saying that the resurrection is past already; and overthrow the faith of some." (2 Timothy 2:16-18 KJV) Those false teachers they were teaching that the resurrection of the dead had already taken place and had confused and caused others to err. We need to hand over to Satan those teachers who does not teach correct doctrines so others will not be deceived and destroyed.

7. Paul told the church that he will use the rod to beat them if they will not change their ways: "18 Now some are puffed up, as though I would not come to you. 19 But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord will, and will know, not the speech of them which are puffed up, but the power. 20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power. 21 What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?" (1 Corinthians 4:18-21 KJV) Paul sure was hated by those who were disobedience and were threatened by Paul to be beaten with a rod. Therefore when we are called to do such things we should not be afraid to execute the judgment of God on those who do evil.

When the church is lax and when the leaders of the church refuse to discipline the people, the people will go whoring into the wrong direction of life and will become wild and resist to be changed. Now a day we witness many churches lax and allow wicked things to take place in its midst and that had become a discouragement to the disciplinarian churches to continue to discipline their members. But that should not be a hindrance to the obedient to stand with God and do the very thing the Scriptures recommend. * It is not rudeness and it is not uttering curses upon people, but this is the way to give the treatment and the medicine to the people who are sick, addicted and comfortable to live in with sins. * Prophetically the wicked will receive the curse from God. To declare that and stand for it to happen is the right thing, and when the Holy Spirit will lead us to do such then we should not be reluctant to obey God.

Through my service, I had done various painful measures in the ministry that God entrusted in my hand. I had rebuked people, I had used rod, I had beaten people, I had uttered prophetically the destruction of God upon the wicked, I had hand over to Satan, and I agreed with God on all the calamities and the plagues that He sent to discipline His church and His people, and learned from God the following in my service unto Him.

- I will stand with Him even if no one will be left to stand with me.
- I will trust only His Word because that is the only thing what will stand forever.
- *I will never trust man, even if all men are with me, while His Word is broken.*

"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." (Revelation 2:24 KJV) When He says to us I will not put upon you none other burden, because He expect from us to do all such that we had discussed above and that suppose to be our real burden today to stand firm against the devil and all his followers in Thyatira church of today.

My dear and beloved: Let us today repent and come back to God and be willing to stand with Him and not to sympathize with evil doer and those who do evil, but to accept and approve the judgment of God that He will send to them. In such a way the Lord shall heal our land and restore His blessings back to us if we are willing today to carry the burden that He ordained for us to carry.

The Lord shall continue to protect us and provide for us, but we need to keep the places that is assigned for us; even if we are assigned in the church of Thyatira, we need to remain and to stand firm and oppose the evil doing and do our assignments well unto God, who will continue to anoint us and give us certain instructions that we need to do to achieve His will; to bring God's judgment on the wicked, in order to protect ourselves and those who are willing to follow and to give chance for the wicked to repent and come back to God and start to serve Him.

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 your Word that encouraged me to continue to stand firm and serve you doing my assignment in order to fulfill your will in my life.

Confess your sins now to God. Lord forgives me the following sins ______. Repent of the fear of man and from running away from doing the assignments of the Lord in full.

Lord I commit myself to abide with this Word of yours that I received in this message. Lord I commit myself to stand firm against corruption, greed, false teachings, immoralities, and all the schemes of the devil. Lord I am willing to go and do all the assignment that you entrusted to me to do, to evangelize reaching new people and to make new disciples.

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 persecution and the attacks of the devil.

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, 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.

Lessons from the sermon of Jesus on the mountain Part 54. The Letter of Jesus to the church in Thyatira Part 6. Revelation 2:18-24. Acts 5:1-11. Acts 8:20-23. Matthew 7:17-23. Acts 9:1-20. Acts 13:6-12. 1 Corinthians 5:4-13. 1 Timothy 1:18-20. 2 Timothy 2:16-18. 1 Corinthians 4:18-21.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf The Church Overseer Church of God United Arab Emirates www.churchofgoduae.com Email: thebread1@gmail.com Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

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