

Lessons From the Sermon of Jesus on the Mountain Part 55

The Letter of Jesus to the Church in Thyatira Part 7

“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)

“25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.” (Revelation 2:25 KJV) Jesus coming is soon and He wants us to hold fast on what we had attained until He will come so we will receive the reward. This is a call for perseverance. Let the faithful remain faithful until the end. Apostle John encouraged the church and the saints with this statement, ***“Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward.”*** (2 John 1:8 KJV) He was telling them to be careful not to lose the things that they worked hard to achieve. **** We should be aware that we had accomplished good and precious things. * We should not give up or get daunted by the trials and the opposition and the work of devil against us by using people to harm us, revile us or persecute us. * Jesus is coming sure and we need to wait patiently for Him while looking on ourselves not to lose our position and move away from the assignments that God placed on us and assigned us to do.*** Jesus is coming soon either in His second coming or in His coming judgment on the wicked. Jesus saying to you now in this critical moment in the life of His church, ***“25 But that which ye have already hold fast till I come.”*** (Revelation 2:25 KJV) **** The Church of God UAE had reached certain level of teaching and commitments that we really need to keep intact from the worldly corruption that is so rampant around us, because of worldliness, because of temptation, and because of persecution and financial pressure. Therefore, we need to be willing to loss people who are not willing to follow, than to keep them and we lose what we already have that we had received from God. * No way for compromises; we may bear and be patience in suffering but we will not let compromises to prevail and penetrate in. We need to keep the sound teaching and the discipline that God had entrusted to us and be faithful to Him till the end.***

“26 And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations.” (Revelation 2:26 KJV) Here the Lord gives His promises to

those who will overcome in the church of Thyatira. The question now is this: How they will overcome or how we will overcome?

- 1. They or we should continue to do the good work of God and keep our standard and our achievements as before. We need to persevere in our consistency.***
- 2. They or we should accept and persevere in the time of persecution and suffering, and not to move away from our assignments and the ministry that God entrusted to us at the time of heavy persecution.***
- 3. They or we should not do or get involved in any of the wickedness that others in the church are getting involved with.***
- 4. They or we should not condone or compromise with those who are doing wickedness and promote false teaching, immoralities, food offered to idols, politics, crimes, manipulation, make up, indecent dress, etc. We might be pressurized by fiancés or pressurized by other power or manipulation to give in, but we need to be alert and stand firm and continue to resist.***
- 5. They or we should be willing to stand with God and agree with Him in what He will be doing from discipline.***
- 6. They or we should be willing to do the very terrible things that God is asking us to do to combat the evil deeds and to apply the discipline and the punishment of God on the wicked and the discipline of God on those who do not fear Him. We do such so God will punish the wicked, to revenge the blood of his servants, to protect ourselves and the remnant, to give chance for the wicked to repent and serve God, and to remove the hindrances that the wicked will put to hinder others to repent and come to God.***

Jesus told them, ***“and keepeth my works unto the end.”*** ***It means to maintain the good works of Jesus, in preaching His Word and in making disciples, in doing Bible studies, and baptizing them and in teaching them all the commands of God and in preparing them for the second coming of Christ. * The work of Jesus is to reach out new people. The work of Jesus is to preserve and conserve the current disciples. The work of Jesus is also showing mercy, helping the poor and needy, doing miracles, healing the sick by laying on hands and praying, and works of righteousness in obedience to the law of God, the work of faith, the work of charity, the labour of love, and every act of obedience.***

The meaning of the ***“unto the end”*** is that either until the end of that church state and all the wrong things in that church of Thyatira to be settled through the judgment of Christ, as Christ was doing in judging His church through the Pandemic of COVID 19 or though other disciplinary actions like wars and natural calamitiess, or till the second coming of Christ. Here in this part of the message of Jesus to the faithful in Thyatira church, is to encourage them to be patience and persevering till Jesus brings and finish His fierce judgment on those who represent Jezebel and her children in that church as He promised to do when He said, ***“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.”*** (Revelation 2:22-23 KJV) ***Jesus is telling them that He will come and judge and deal with all these sins, the immoralities, the idol worship, etc., but they needed to continue to do His work till the end as He instructed them, “and keepeth my works unto the end.”***

Here the Lord Jesus Christ promised to those who overcome, ***“to him will I give power over the nations.”*** Here the promise of Jesus is on the individual level for each and everyone who overcome; because Jesus said, ***“to him will I give.”*** *Put it always in your mind if you obey you will get the benefit not others as Jesus said, “to him will I give.” The credit of obedience is not transferable from person to other, neither from parents to children, nor from husband to wife and vice versa.*

“to him will I give.” Jesus will give him or give her power over the nations. The nations are the Gentiles that Jesus wants us to reach them with His gospel. *The power over the nations either what He mean by it, the authority to have the opportunity to preach the Word of God or the authority to discipline, to correct, and to deal with whatever wrong doing taking place among those who are reached out and disciplined, or among those who are workers but serving God in a bad manner.*

Why Jesus will give authority over the nations to those who overcome? Because they are the right people who will teach them the gospel of Jesus and His Word. They will teach them to give up immoralities, food offered to idols, to give up birthday parties, greed, manipulations, politics, murders and the rest of the crimes that they are doing against the body of Christ and against His faithful servants the prophets.

What people like Jezebel and Ahab and their followers in the current church situation will teach those who are converted and who want to follow Christ? They will teach them happy birthday, dating, courting, date with the women on the valentine day and try your luck, give gift and flowers to your mother and wife in the mother day, and give gift to your husband and father in the father day. They will teach them to get involved in celebration of Christmas, New Year, Halloween, All Saints day. They will teach them to use the church to make business, and the business pyramids. There were people circulating in the churches teaching the people to get involved in business to increase their income. They will teach them politics and manipulation rather than fearing God and living in righteousness. They will teach them to cheat and put mask on their faces while serving, they will teach them to honour church government and not the Word of God and His commands. They will teach them to use the church offices for living and to accept corruption to maintain the church income and their income.

Therefore the Lord Jesus Christ promised those who will overcome that they will be given authority and power over the Gentile nations in order to teach them and to bring them back to the apostle's teaching that the current leaders of the church had misbehaved and acted as Jezebel and Ahab and their followers in corrupting the ways of God.

Those who overcome will receive power from Jesus over the Gentile nations to teach them what the apostle agreed upon in *Acts 15* as we can read here: ***“19 Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God: 20 But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood. 28 For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things; 29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.”*** (*Acts 15:19-20, 28-29 KJV*) Now the churches are like the wicked part of the church of Thyatira; they are teaching their members against what the

apostles agreed upon as they allow them to do immoralities in the forms that we discussed; dating, courting, boyfriend, girlfriend which all are immoralities even from a distance because it is lust in the heart. Now hardly you can see in the born again churches that children of Christians are reaching to the marriage time whether boys or girls are virgins. 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; the divorce and remarriage; almost all the churches of God and the churches of Christ are approving divorce and remarriage; as well as allowing and teaching them to eat food offered to idols and allowing that to enter God's church as we described before in the form of the celebration of birthdays, Christmas, New Year, Halloween with the skull symbols, All Saints Day, Valentine, Father day, Mother day, Woman day, etc. Also the make up, the indecent dress, the rebelliousness against God's commands, which is witchcraft, and spiritual adultery worshipping other gods through disobedience to God's Word. As well as using the church offices for living, as well as their bad example of greed, politics, manipulations, and using the church government to attack and persecute honest people and the servants of God who do rebuke them for all the above sins, worldliness and compromises and crimes.

Those, and we among them, who will teach and implement once again the teaching of the apostles will bring revival, holiness and righteousness in the life of the church and in the life of the people of God. They and we should be among them, the people who will be preparing the church in proper way to meet the Lord in His second coming.

“to him will I give power over the nations:” May also means the temporal power which the saints shall have over the antichrist, when they shall take away his dominion, and consume and destroy it, and the kingdom and the dominion under the whole Heaven shall be given to the saints of the most High as we read in the book of Daniel; ***“25 And he shall speak great words against the most High*** (this is the antichrist), ***and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. 26 But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. 27 And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.”*** (*Daniel 7:25-27 KJV*)

Further promises of Jesus to those who will overcome are the followings:

“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.” (*Revelation 2:27 KJV*)

“And he shall rule them with a rod of iron:” The rod of iron is either the Gospel, which is the rod of Christ's strength, and is the power of God unto salvation, and by which the Kingdom of Christ is enlarged, and the power of the church of Christ over the antichrist party is increased. *To “rule them with a rod of iron” it may means great strictness and severity, with which the man of sin will be controlled by the saints of the most High, when they shall take away his dominion from him during the millennium reign of Christ.*

“as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers:” Which may be expressive either of the breaking of rocky or stony hearts in pieces at conversion, and of making souls humble and contrite. Or it means of the irreparable ruin and destruction of antichrist, when the saints shall consume and destroy him just before the beginning of the millennium reign of Christ.

“even as I received of my Father.” What Christ received power from the Father as He said, **“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.” (Matthew 28:18 KJV)** He will pass this power to the overcoming saints, to us, so we can overcome as He overcame. As well as Christ’s rule and power over the nations are asked by Him, given to Him, and received by Him, **“8 Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. 9 Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.” (Psalms 2:8-9 KJV)** This denotes the participation of the saints with Christ in His kingdom and power, and in the judgment and destruction of the antichrist. **As we desire to stand firm with Christ against all the wickedness of the people who are like Jezebel and Ahab and their followers in the church in Thyatira, then we need to pray and cry to God and ask Him about our inheritance in having power over the nations so we can reach them with the Gospel of Jesus, that is the rod of iron that will break into pieces the heart of stone and subdue it to Christ our Lord.**

“28 And I will give him the morning star.” (Revelation 2:28 KJV) Christ is called the morning star as we read here: **“I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.” (Revelation 22:16 KJV)** **The morning star appear at the end of the night, at dawn, followed after by the morning sun light, and this here represent the glory of Christ that will shine over the overcoming saints with signs, wonders, and miracles, who will lead the reformation and the revival, and we will receive the glory of Christ that will shine over us.**

“29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” (Revelation 2:29 KJV)

My dear and beloved: * **Let us now stand in the presence of God and commit ourselves once again to stand firm with God and do all what we can and all what we asked to do to overcome.** * **Let us cry out to God in prayers to give us the heathen to preach the gospel of Jesus to them and to bring the Word of God and His will to them and teach them how to live for Him and to commit their full life for Him.** * **Let us trust God that He will protect us and will provide all our needs. Let us come to Him, cry to Him, let us recommit our lives once again to serve Him.** * **Let us trust that He love us and He will keep imparting His love and power into our lives as we commit our lives to stand firm with Him as He is dealing with the power of darkness and their wicked instruments that are invading Christ’s church.**

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, compromises, from doubt and corruption.

Lord I commit myself to abide with this Word of yours that I received in this message. Lord I commit myself to do all your works. 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, to implement your teachings and discipline in the life of the gentiles.

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 give them perseverance, patience, self-control and the rest of the fruit of the Holy Spirit so that they can bear the pressure of the ministry and the opposition that will be laid on them until the time that you will come to take us with you to Heaven.

Lord bless us and sustain us as a church. Lord help us, protect us even the few that we are remaining, 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.

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