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The Last Are More Than The First

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THE LAST ARE MORE THAN THE FIRST

*Rev. 2:18-29

Distinct

INT.

Churches, like humans! No two alike. personaliti
 Asian churches 7 in no., yet all 1 in Christ.
 THYATIRA: 17,000 pop. Mfg. dyes. Lydia's home.
 Mostly Turks. 3,000 followed Christ!
 Two of 7 churches FREE of blame. NOT this one.

I. CHRIST COMMENDED MANY AT THYATIRA

- A. He commended all their good works: V. 19.
1. LOVE. Matt. 22:37-39. I Thess. 1:3.
 2. FAITH. Holding to the truth well. Firm.
 3. DEVOTED to the needy. Jas. 1:27.
 4. PATIENT: Lk. 21:19. Possess our souls.
Ill. Geo. Matherson: Greatest patience
 not lying down in illness or sorrow;
 but while RUNNING, striving, working.
 Harder to be patient then! (Knt. p. 481)
 (Eager. Enthusiastic. Ambitious!)
- B. LAST works are better than 1st. Unusual!!!
1. Commended for more things than churches
 which had NO criticism. (Smyrna-Philadel)

II. YET, JESUS WAS CRITICAL OF THE ENTIRE CHURCH!

- A. Left false-doctrine unopposed! Prophetess.
1. Gr. suggests: "elders-wife" or she-elde
 2. Explains church's hesitancy to act.
Ill. Western Hills, FW. Elder helped
 withdraw from HIS own wife. Sinful!!!!
 3. She teaching immorality and idolatry. 20
- B. Bad to HAVE sin, WORSE to ignore it.
1. If had a preacher, a coward! IIT. 4:1-4
 2. If had elders, lacked moral courage to
call sin, sin and defend church!!!

III. LORD CONDEMNED THE FACTIOUS GROUP.

- A. Rare when factious group DOESN'T find some
 weak members who will sympathize with them.
- B. God gave the Prophetess time to repent. 21.
- C. Death-penalty pronounced on impenitent.
 V. 23. Rom. 3:23. Rom. 6:23. Warn. 23.

IV. JESUS CONSOLED THE RIGHTEOUS.

- A. We assume the righteous in the MAJORITY
 because of the Commendation given. v.24.

BOORIM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

(save HER!)

1. These innocent. Knew not the depths of Satan's schemes. Not looking, expecting
- B. Lord did not burden them further. Said: "Just HOLD your ground!" V. 25.
- C. The Victorious Christians would be used to judge the ungodly nations. V. 26.
- D. Jesus promised the good and faithful the MORNING STAR: Jesus as Friend & Savior. ALSO: Sun of Righteousness. Mal. 4:2.

Bright & Morning Star: Rev. 22:16. Day Star: II P.1:19
Glory of the Lord. Isa. 40:5. Light of the world. J.8:12
Lord of Glory. I Cor. 2:8.

LESSON: Wicked will be punished here/and forever hereafter!

Righteous will be rewarded here/and forever hereafter.

INV. JESUS GIVES US A CHOICE REGARDING THE JUDGMENT!

1. You can help HIM judge the world, using YOU as an example of those WHO REMAINED FAITHFUL. Proves it COULD be done, OR
2. Judge you by Christians, who proved faithful in spite of all temptations!

YOU WILL HELP JUDGE!

YOU WILL BE JUDGED! Which? Your choice!
 Be a

If not a Christian, obey: Acts 2:38. Winner!

If not a faithful Chr., obey: I John 1:9.
 Avoid being a LOSER!!

Remember: When you leave this world, you will leave ALL you have - except the record of your life.

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 MT 10-31-76 PM ①