



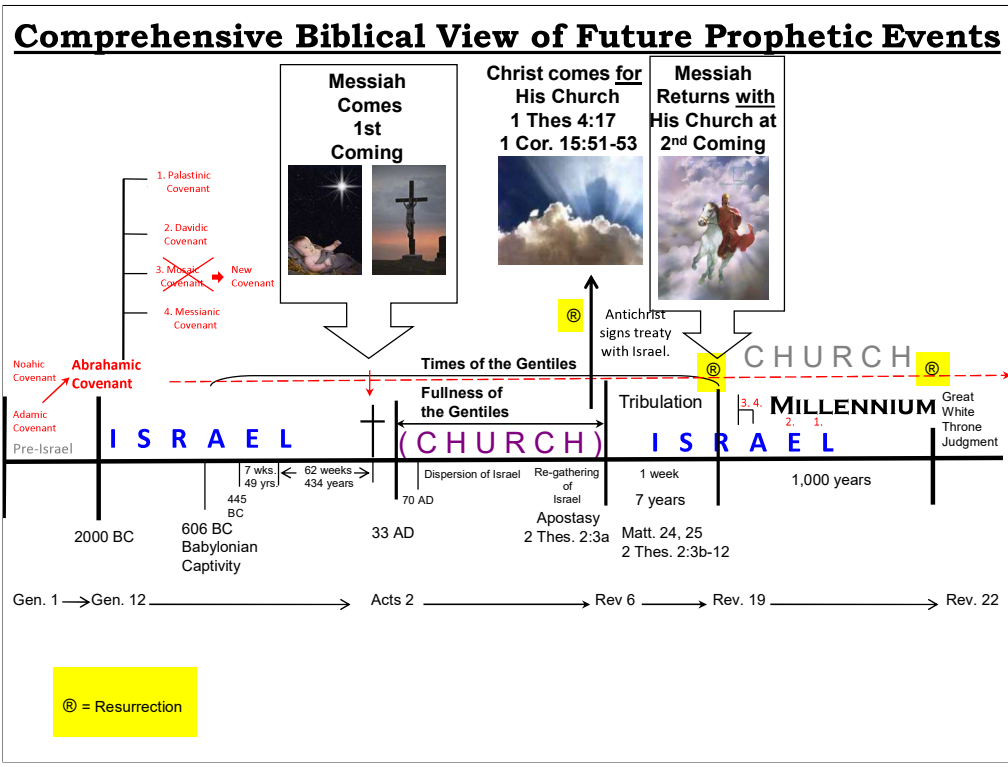
The Church at Thyatira

“The Seduction of a Church”

Part 1

Rev. 2:18-20

Nov. 20, 2016



Seven Churches of Revelation

— Chapters 2-3 —

- 1 Ephesus
- 2 Smyrna
- 3 Pergamos
- 4 Thyatira
- 5 Sardis
- 6 Philadelphia
- 7 Laodicea

Island of Patmos: where John received the vision

Scale: 20 mi / 50 km

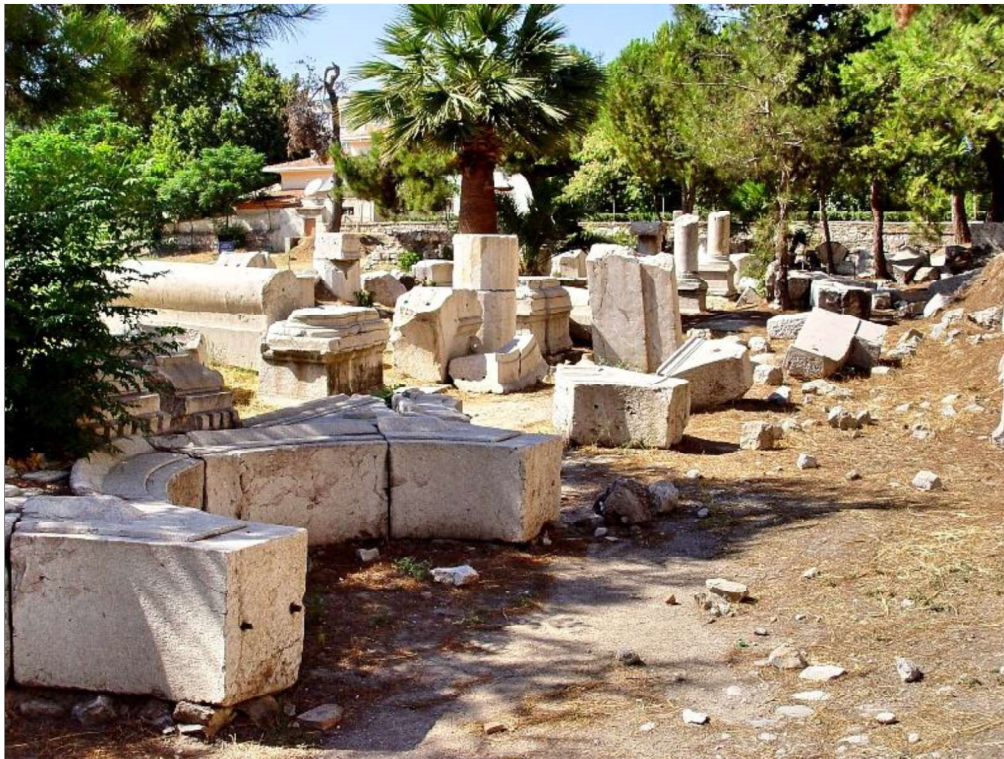
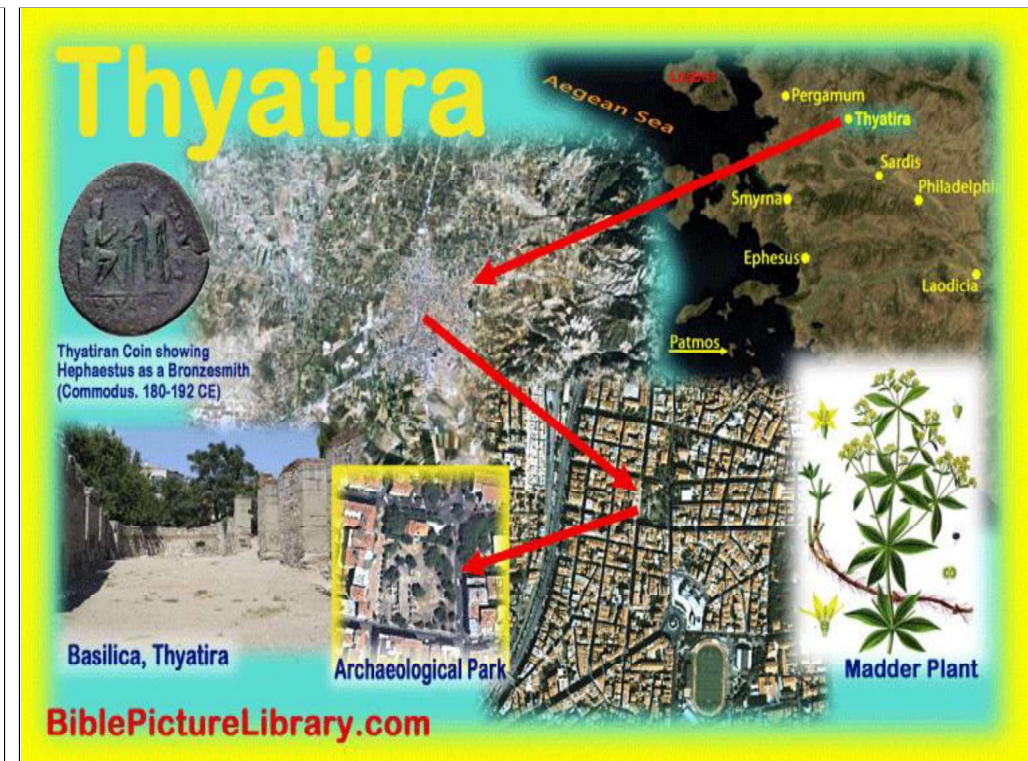
Rev 2:18-20

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The Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet are 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.

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City of Thyatira

1. Located on a fertile valley.
2. 20,000 population.
3. Not a significant religious center.
4. Main god worshipped: Apollo
Others: Asclepias, Dionysus, Artemis
5. Known for their trade guilds (labor unions).

Church at Thyatira

1. Possible ways that was started:
 - Paul when he was in Ephesus.
 - Lydia – Acts 16:12-15.

Acts 16:12-15

- 12 . . . and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a Roman colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.
- 13 And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.
- 14 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
- 15 And 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.

Church at Thyatira

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 - Paul when he was in Ephesus.
 - Lydia – Acts 16:12-15.
2. Was pressured to join guilds to make a living.
3. Was out of existence by the end of the 2nd century having been swallowed up by the Montanist heresy.

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3. Was out of existence by the end of the 2nd century having been swallowed up by the Montanist heresy.
4. Commended for 6 qualities:
 - Deeds
 - Love
 - Faith
 - Service
 - Perseverance
 - Growth

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1. Deeds

Eph 2:10

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

2. Love

Matt 22:36,37

36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

37 37 And He said to him, " 'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.'

1 Peter 1:22

22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

3. Faith

Col 2:5

5 For even though I am absent in body, nevertheless I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good discipline and the stability of your faith in Christ.

4. Service

1 Peter 4:10

10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

5. Perseverance

1 Tim 6:11

11 But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness.

6. Growth

Eph 4:15

15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ,

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4. It was during the time of Ahab and Jezebel that
Elijah was the prophet in Israel. Satan had his
couple on the throne, but God had His man in the
field, performing miracles and leading a revival
against Baal-worship. The three-and-a-half-year
drought that Elijah prayed for was part of God's
judgment on the wickedness of the nation and its
leaders.

5. After Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal and had
them killed at Mt. Carmel (1 Kings 18), Jezebel
issued a death threat against him (1 Kings 19:2).
Despite hearing of the miraculous powers of the
Lord, Jezebel **refused to repent** and swore on her
gods that she would pursue Elijah relentlessly and
take his life.

Jezebel

1. Jezebel, a Sidonian woman and Baal worshiper, and
King Ahab (a Jewish king) were married. Baal, was a
cruel, sensuous and revolting false god whose worship
involved **sexual immorality and lewdness**.
2. King Ahab became involved in Baal worship. Ahab
built a house to Baal in the capital city of Samaria and
made an Asherah pole as a tool of pagan worship.

1 Kings 16:33

33 Ahab also made the Asherah. Thus Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God
of Israel than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

3. After their marriage, **Jezebel cut off and killed many
prophets** in Israel.

1 Kings 18:13

13 "Has it not been told to my master what I did when Jezebel killed the
prophets of the Lord, that I hid a hundred prophets of the Lord by
fifties in a cave, and provided them with bread and water?"

6. The queen went on to plot against Naboth, the
innocent owner of a vineyard that Ahab coveted.
Jezebel had Naboth killed so the king could confiscate
his land (1 Kings 21).

7. Naboth's sons were also stoned to death, so there
would be no heirs. (2 Kings 9:26)
8. She prodded her husband into **many other wicked
acts**:

1 Kings 21:25

25 Surely there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do evil in
the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife incited him.

9. Jezebel was into witchcraft and sorcery.

2 Kings 9:22

22 When Joram (Jezebel's son) saw Jehu, he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" And he answered, "What peace, so long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts are so many?"

10. Ahab's death was predicted by the prophets Elijah and Micaiah (1 Kings 21:19; 22:28).

True to the prophecy, Ahab was killed in a battle with Syria. 2 Kings 9:30-37

Jezebel's gruesome death was also predicted by Elijah (1 Kings 21:23).

1 Kings 21:23

23 "Of Jezebel also has the Lord spoken, saying, 'The dogs will eat Jezebel in the district of Jezreel.'

2 Kings 9:30-37

30 When Jehu came to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it, and she painted her eyes and adorned her head and looked out the window.

31 As Jehu entered the gate, she said, "Is it well, Zimri, your master's murderer?"

32 Then he lifted up his face to the window and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" And two or three officials looked down at him.

33 He said, "**Throw her down.**" So they threw her down, and some of her blood was sprinkled on the wall and on the horses, and he trampled her under foot.

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 They went to bury her, but they found nothing more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands.

36 Therefore they returned and told him. And he said, "This is the word of the Lord, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'In the property of Jezreel the dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel;

37 and the corpse of Jezebel will be as dung on the face of the field in the property of Jezreel, so they cannot say, "This is Jezebel.'"

So who was the Jezebel in the O.T.?

- idolater
- murderer
- witchcraft and sorcery
- immoral and led Israel through idolatry into immorality.
- powerful personality
- false teaching
- domineering
- unrepentant

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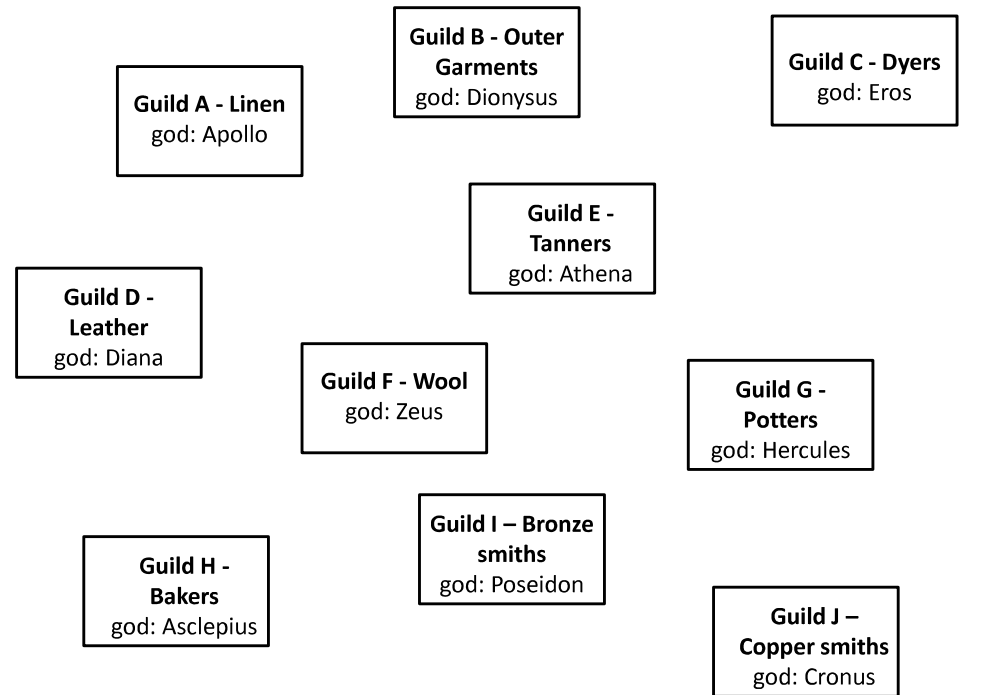
Someone outside/inside



1. Mishandles Scripture:
 - ignore
 - wrongly interpret
 - twist
2. Seeds are planted.
3. Create a following.
4. Majority of the church:
 - believe
 - undecided and tolerate
5. Belief and practice of the church.

X

Satan is in the business of putting churches out of existence.



Dualism

1. The spirit is good, and the flesh is evil.
2. God is only interested in the spirit, He doesn't care about the body so it doesn't matter what you do with your body.
3. Dualism said the body is material, the body is dirt, the body is earthy, the body is flesh and the body is sinful and that's not going to change, and that's how it is. And the spirit is good and holy and righteous and as long as your spirit is committed to Christ and you're here worshipping Him in spirit, what you do in your body doesn't matter and so you can do both.
4. Therefore, according to Jezebel, it did not matter if believers "committed acts of immorality."
5. This gave believers in the church the license to sin.

Pluralism

1. Pluralism says there is more than one way, there are several ways.
2. Pluralism is based on Postmodernism which is the belief that there is no such thing as absolute truth.
3. That being the case, no religion can claim exclusivity of the truth. All religions are equal.
4. So it is ok to worship Jesus Christ in the morning, and worship Apollo in the afternoon, and Zeus in the evening.
5. Therefore, according to Jezebel, it did not matter if believers "ate things sacrificed to idols."

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“Any doctrine, any philosophy that makes it easy to sin, whether by excusing it, minimizing its enormity, or denying its existence is of hell. And not merely are those held guilty who teach the doctrine and practice the sin, but that church also, which is not clear and outspoken in its protests against sin. The church that suffers the woman is guilty. Let us, as believing Christians, remember that no compromise with Jezebel’s doctrine is acceptable to our Lord.”

- G. Campbell Morgan