

Dear Church Pt 8 - The Fine Line

18 “To the angel of the church in Thyatira write:

These are the words of the Son of God, whose eyes are like blazing fire and whose feet are like burnished bronze. 19 I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.

20 Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. 22 So I will cast her on a bed of suffering, and I will make those who commit adultery with her suffer intensely, unless they repent of her ways. 23 I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am he who searches hearts and minds, and I will repay each of you according to your deeds.

24 Now I say to the rest of you in Thyatira, to you who do not hold to her teaching and have not learned Satan’s so-called deep secrets, ‘I will not impose any other burden on you, 25 except to hold on to what you have until I come.’

26 To the one who is victorious and does my will to the end, I will give authority over the nations— 27 that one ‘will rule them with an iron scepter and will dash them to pieces like pottery’—just as I have received authority from my Father. 28 I will also give that one the morning star. 29 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

It is almost impossible to be truthful with someone whose feelings you are trying protect.

“Being right does not override our responsibility to love well.”

Central Theme - Loving well doesn’t override our responsibly to believe correctly.

People think they get to dictate their terms for loving God as if the Bible doesn’t do that for us.

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 2 Timothy 4:3

You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of food sacrificed to idols. 21 I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling. Revelation 20:20b-21

A threat from the outside is easy to see and easy to deal with but a threat from this inside is dangerous because it seems to have authority.

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. James 3:1

There are still many who under the premise of Christianity advocate for sins that the Bible forbids.

28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. Acts 20:28-29

Jesus condemns those who by silence and passivity allow rebellious voices to take root and then flourish.

Slides only *“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” - Edmond Burke*

Walking the fine line between God’s Grace and God’s requirements is one of the greatest challenges set before the church today.