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Revelation 2:20-21

# Report Card Summary

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Good

Bad

Ephesus

Smyrna

Pergamos

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Sardis

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Laodicea

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Thyatira

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Let's review the Lord's letter to this church.

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“Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into (what) great tribulation, (condition) unless they repent of their deeds. I will kill her children with death, and all (what) the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.”

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“And he who overcomes, and (what) keeps My works until (when) the end, to him I will give power over the nations— *‘He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter’s vessels’*— as I also “and I will give him the morning star.”

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How can that be?

How can the Lord say these kind of things to a church this bad?

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The church at Thyatira represents the pagan church during the dark ages and the false teaching of the Catholic church. It is the institutional mixing of faith and works for salvation claiming the sacrifice of Jesus was not enough to secure our atonement.

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This period runs from 607 AD (when Boniface III was made the first pope) until the tribulation.

# Thyatira – Bad News

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“you” – the church leaders and majority of the congregation in Thyatira.

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“allow” – to permit, not to hinder, to leave alone, to tolerate.

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Woman – see 1 Timothy 2:12

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Jezebel – The Old Testament Jezebel was an unspeakably vile woman.

# Thyatira – Bad News

See how Satan attacks the Lord's church:

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“Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.”

Revelation 2:15

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See how Satan attacks the Lord's church:

## Pergamos

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Membership in the church was different then.

# Thyatira – Bad News

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“Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.”

Revelation 2:20

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“who calls herself” – You can only be a self-proclaimed leader if other people follow.

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“prophetess” – One who is an interpreter of God or is acting from a divine influence.

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“teach” – To know or teach, to instruct by word of mouth, to catechize.

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“seduce” – To cause to wander, to be led or go astray, to mislead, a deceiver.

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“My servants” – *doúlos*

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*porneúō* – to commit or practice fornication, to play the harlot, a male prostitute, to live in lewdness.

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Why is that such a big deal?

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I thought Paul already addressed that matter.

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Teach and Seduce

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Greek Dualism (spirit and body)

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Antinomian View of God's Grace

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Deep Things of Satan

# Thyatira – Bad News

Teach and Seduce

Greek Dualism (spirit and body)

Antinomian View of God's Grace

Deep Things of Satan

Whatever her teaching was, it led the majority of the church away from truth and righteousness.

How Does This Apply to Us?

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Scriptures teach that we can all fall prey to sin.

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Scriptures teach that we can all fall prey to sin.  
Even sexual sin.

# How Does This Apply to Us?

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

1 Corinthians 6:15-17

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Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

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But one who teaches and encourages another to sin is in another category altogether.

And the Lord says they deserve the harshest punishment.

# How Does This Apply to Us?

“But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Woe to the world because of offenses! For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes!”

Matthew 18:6-7

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“If your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life lame or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet, to be cast into the everlasting fire.

And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you. It is better for you to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire.”

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“Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”

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How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

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# How Does This Apply to Us?

How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

# How Does This Apply to Us?

How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

# How Does This Apply to Us?

How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

Husbands

# How Does This Apply to Us?

How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

Husbands

Wives

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How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

Husbands

Wives

Friends

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How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

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Wives

Friends

Dating Relationships

# How Does This Apply to Us?

How are we guilty of causing others to stumble?

Fathers

Mothers

Husbands

Wives

Friends

Dating Relationships

Fellow Believers

Thyatira

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It was the church, and the leadership of the church, that allowed the teaching of Jezebel into the church.

There was no watchman on the wall.

No guard at the gate of the church.

Nothing.

# Thyatira

And the Lord had some terrible things to say about Jezebel and those apostates who followed her teaching and rejected the truth of the Gospel.

# Thyatira – Bad News

“And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. Indeed (promise) I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless (condition) they repent of their deeds.”

Revelation 2:21-22

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Revelation 2:21-22

God always judges by our deeds.

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Revelation 2:21-22

God always judges by our deeds.  
Always.

# Thyatira – Bad News

“I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.”

Revelation 2:23

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Revelation 2:23

Note: We go from the collective (churches) to the individual (you and your). God is giving those faithful in the church an out.

Thyatira

# Thyatira

And it gets even worse.

# Thyatira

And it gets even worse.

Especially when you consider the completed  
Report Card Summary:

# Report Card Summary

# Report Card Summary

Good

Bad

Ephesus

Smyrna

Pergamos

Thyatira

Sardis

Philadelphia

Laodicea

# Report Card Summary

Good

Bad

Ephesus

X

Smyrna

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	<u>Good</u>	<u>Bad</u>
Ephesus	X	X
Smyrna		
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Philadelphia		
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# Report Card Summary

	<u>Good</u>	<u>Bad</u>	
Ephesus	X	X	
Smyrna	X		
Pergamos	X	X	
Thyatira	X	X	
Sardis			Reformation
Philadelphia			
Laodicea			

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	<u>Good</u>	<u>Bad</u>	
Ephesus	X	X	
Smyrna	X		
Pergamos	X	X	
Thyatira	X	X	
Sardis		X	Reformation
Philadelphia			
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Ephesus	X	X	
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Sardis		X	Reformation
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Sardis		X	Reformation
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Ephesus	X	X	
Smyrna	X		
Pergamos	X	X	
Thyatira	X	X	
Sardis		X	Reformation
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Laodicea			Now!

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Pergamos	X	X	
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Sardis		X	Reformation
Philadelphia	X		
Laodicea		X	Now!

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Laodicea		X	Now!

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“And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

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How should they have responded to their church authority?

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Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:11-12

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For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men— as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice, but as bondservants of God.

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Love (*agapaō*) the brotherhood

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Fear God.

Honor the king.

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The point is not the corruption of the church of Thyatira and what it represents, which our Lord addresses in His letter, as much as it is something they must be doing that we are not.

Something the Lord must value greatly.

And if that is true,  
then we must re-think everything.

