

Corruption in the Church

(Revelation 2:18-29)

I. The Lord Knows

- A. The Lord knew their:
 - 1. Works (James 2:14-26)
 - 2. Love (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)
 - 3. Service (Romans 12:1,2)
 - 4. Faith (Hebrews 11:6)
 - 5. Patience (Romans 15:4)
- B. "The last are more than the first" – This phrase seems to say that their works were increasing.

II. The Evil

- A. Jezebel was allowed to be there (verse 20)
 - 1. Jezebel brings to remembrance (1 Kings 16, 18, 19, 21).
 - 2. Jezebel destroyed the prophets of Jehovah (1 Kings 18).
- B. This Jezebel was calling herself a prophetess to draw away the Christians (verse 20).
 - 1. Claiming to be a prophetess would be claiming to teach divine things.
 - 2. Jezebel was a false teacher in Thyatira.
- C. Jezebel had time to repent, but she refused (verse 21).
- D. Jezebel will be punished (verses 22-23).
 - 1. The children mentioned here would mean those who are practicing such lawlessness. (Compare John 8:44)
- E. Each one of Jezebel's children would receive according to their works (verse 23).
 - 1. (2 Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 16:27)

III. Those who Overcome

- A. The rest would be those who had not been influenced and practices the teaching of Jezebel (verse 24)
- B. They have not joined in the evil practices of Satan.
- C. Jesus would put no other burden on them (verse 24)
 - 1. They would still have the burden of such people (Jezebel) around them.
- D. They are to hold fast:
 - 1. Their stance for the Truth must continue.
 - 2. They too are to remain faithful until death (Revelation 2:10).
- E. The one who overcomes will receive great rewards:
 - 1. Noah condemned the world by his behavior as a child of God (Hebrews 11:7).
 - 2. Christians to condemn the world because of their Christ-like behavior.
- F. Christ is the morning star (Revelation 22:16).
 - 1. What is probably meant here is that Christ will fellowship with those who overcome.

***Only those who stand fast and overcome will be able to come over into Heaven.
Will you be one?***