"The Letters Jesus Sent" (4)

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1)

Jesus - The Transcendent One

Revelation 2:18 – (18) "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: 'The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze."

Healthy & Functional

<u>Revelation 2:19</u> – (19) "I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first."_

Troubling Tolerance

Revelation 2:20-23 — (20) "But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. (21) I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. (22) Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, (23) and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am he who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you as your works deserve."

Key Point: "A Little Leaven leavens the Whole Lump" (1 Cor. 5:6)

To not be Overcome by Seducing Spirits:

(1) Limit Your Learning

"But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what some call the deep things of Satan, to you I say, I do not lay on you any other burden." (Revelation 2:24)

(2) Don't Let Go of What You Know

"Only hold fast what you have until I come." (Revelation 2:25)

Reward for the Faithful

Revelation 2:26-29 — (26) "The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, (27) and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. (28) And I will give him the morning star. (29) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message?

Have I been desensitized by seducing spirits like the rest of the world? Am I discriminating in terms of what I allow into my mind and heart? (1 John 4:1)

Have I adopted societies' view of 'tolerance' as inherently virtuous?

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)