

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

The Church at Thyatira - Part I

Scripture: **Revelation 2:18-29**

Pastor Larry Webb

ONE...the church at **Ephesus** “The **Loveless** Church”

Reference: **Revelation 2:1-7**

TWO...the church at **Smyrna** “The **Persecuted** Church”

Reference: **Revelation 2:8-11**

THREE...the church at **Pergamos** (Pergamum) “The **Compromised** Church

Reference: **Revelation 2:12-17**

FOUR...the church at **Thyatira**

Reference: **Revelation 2:18-29**

verse eighteen (see screen)

Introduction: Thyatira was a great commercial center and had more trade guilds than all the other cities in ancient Asia. Each trade guild or labor union had its own pagan god assigned to it. To secure a job there it was necessary to be a member of a guild and there would be feasts held to honor and celebrate that god. Christians faced a serious dilemma: people could either attend those feasts dedicated to that particular god of their trade guild or face the possibility of losing their job.

verse eighteen continued (see screen)

COMMENDATION:

verse nineteen (see screen)

Jesus commended this church on six specific things:

- works
- love
- service
- faith
- patience
- more works

Notice this list both begins and ends with _____ but sandwiched in between those works are two pairs of other qualities:

Pair One is **love** and **service**.

Principle: Service is the normal _____ of love.

Reference: **Galatians 6:10, Hebrews 6:10, Hebrews 13:16** (see screen)

Pair Two is **faith** and **patience**.

Principle: Patience is the normal _____ of faith.

Reference: **Psalms 27:14, Psalm 37:7, Isaiah 64:4, Lamentations 3:25** (see screen)

verse nineteen continued (see screen)

CONDEMNATION:

verse twenty (see screen)

The Biblical Prophetic Standard: a prophet or prophetess had to be _____ percent accurate and mistake free all the time.

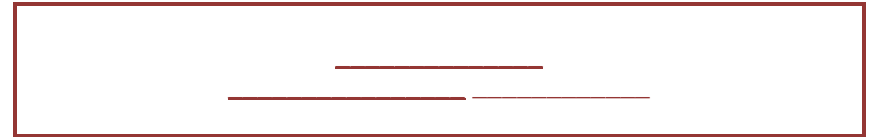
Reference: **Deuteronomy 18:18-22** (see screen),

There were two particular pagan practices this woman tried to infiltrate into the church.

Number one was immoral _____ behavior.

verse twenty (see screen)

Reference: **Genesis 2:24** (see screen)



Number two was immoral _____ behavior.

verse twenty continued (see screen)

Reference: **I John 4:1** (see screen)

There are three tests we can use to evaluate supposed Christian personalities to determine if those people are legitimate representatives from God.

Number one is _____ - a formal statement of someone's religious _____ (someone's doctrine)

Number two is _____ – someone's experiential _____.

Number three is _____ - those individuals that have _____ this person and his (or her) teachings.