BIBLE CLASS 27.06.2024 REVELATION 2.18-28 THYATIRA AND THAT WOMAN JEZEBEL.

18 And unto the angel of the ecclesia in Thyatira write; These things says the Son of God, who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass; 19 I know your works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first. 20 Notwithstanding I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, which calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

And I gave her space to repent of her fornication; and she repented not. Behold, I will cast her into a bed, and them that commit adultery with her into great tribulation, except they repent of their deeds. And I will kill her children with death; and all the Ecclesias shall know that I am he which searches the reins and hearts: and I will give unto every one of you according to your works. 24 But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden. But that which you have already, hold fast till I come.26 And he that overcomes, and keeps my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations: 27 And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. 28 And I will give him the morning star.29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says unto the Ecclesias. (Rev 2:18-29)

The Bible provides an account of the activities of the Kings who ruled Israel and Judah after the death of King David, a man after God's own heart. Those Kings that followed David, except for a small number, did not faithfully observe the Law of Moses. Ahab the son of Omri was one such King to reign over Israel: and reigning over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. He is recorded as one who followed the sins of Jeroboam taking a wife, the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians who became his counsellor and he forsook the God of Israel and worshipped Baal, building a house for this idol in Samaria.

And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him. (1Ki 16:29-33)

Her influence over Ahab, caused a righteous man to be slain so that her husband, Ahab, could seize his ancestral vineyard. Now this aroused Yahweh's anger and He punished Ahab and his wife for their wickedness as the record reveals. "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, I have anointed thee (Jehu) king over the people of the LORD, *even* over Israel. And you shall smite the house of Ahab your master, that I may avenge the blood of my servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD, at the hand of Jezebel. For the whole house of Ahab shall perish: and I will cut off from Ahab every male and him that is shut up and left in Israel: And I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah: **And the dogs shall eat Jezebel** in the portion of Jezreel, and there shall *be* none to bury her. And he opened the door, and fled. (2Ki 9:6-10)

Now our study of the Letter to be sent to Thyatira commences with a description of the Son of God who hath his eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet *are* like fine brass; (Rev 2:18) this signifies how the Lord Jesus told his disciples that "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." (Mat 28:18) That power had been manifested already before the "Revelation" was given. That power was still available either to support and help, or if necessary to punish and destroy As Paul reminded the Hebrews *It is* a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.(Heb. 10:31)

'The history of the alien marriage of Ahab and the dreadful consequences that followed needs to be studied as a type. The fate of Jezebel is that of the class typified in Chapter 17 as the great whore that sits upon many waters. Alluding of course, to the Roman Catholic Church and it's doctrine of the ecumenical movement that promotes cooperation and better understanding among different religious denominations: aimed at universal "Christian" unity according to the Pope and his Cardinals, priests together with many

ther denominations and their belief systems all of which are incompatible with each other!

Thyatira was being reproved because although the activities of the 'Star Angel' or Eldership were many in assisting the needy with material aid, their service was admirable, their works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last *to be* more than the first. Although this was admirable, there were some things that they had not been dealt with. It is described as "Allowing that woman Jezebel, which calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication".

Today in this England it would seem that Marriage is not being observed as it once was. Intercourse takes place with no feeling of shame, and it is no longer considered to be a union for life. But the revelation is not speaking literally, it is speaking of keeping the Doctrine of the Truth as it is in Jesus, PURE. If we court the world,—the man or woman who deliberately marries into the world, which is "God's enemy," is courting spiritual destruction. We shall come to the mystical aspect of this presently, but consider the literal for a beginning. Now, in Abraham's time, some 300 years or more after the flood, Babylonia had become a great centre of apostacy. Abraham is called out, and there is this same restriction. Isaac was not to have a woman of the land of Abraham's exile, Abraham was very strict on this: "See that thou bring not my son thither again." So onward, down through the line in the Old Testament history, we might ponder these things. There was never a wiser man than Solomon, we read, and yet of him what is written? "Solomon loved many strange women," of the Edomites and Moabites, and the rest of them. The Lord had said: "Ye shall not make marriages with these people," but "even Solomon did outlandish women cause to sin." In what way was it? He was seduced to follow their idolatrous religion. Now, if we say in our days, Oh, we will cause such and such to know the truth, do not let us be too sure about it. Are we wiser and stronger than Solomon? It worked the other way in his case, and in nine cases out of ten it works that way now. Brethren and sisters. Our natural tendencies are not God-ward, but man-ward, and we do

not want helps *not* right for us, who will drag us back to the world, but the other way; we want help on the right road. Therefore let us think upon these things concerning marriage, which is the basis of the spiritual matter in Christ, and let us restrict our alliances, and our prospective alliances to the circle of God's choice.

When people express a desire to be baptised, it is important that the eldership of the ecclesia should interview that person thoroughly, on the first principles of the oracles of God (Heb.5:12)

Romans 7:1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he lives? For the woman which has a husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he lives; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. So then if, while *her* husband lives, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, *even* to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God. (Rom 7:1-4)

Evidently in the Thyatiran Ecclesia false teaching had been brought in surreptitiously and though the eldership had been warned by the Lord Jesus in the message he sent to them by the hand of John, nevertheless it succumbed to the depths of Satan as they speak and eventually their light stand spluttered deprived of oil and plunged into darkness.

DHH