

EDGEMONT BIBLE CHURCH

PASTOR DOUGLAS A WHITE

“BEING A RESTORED HUMAN”



“JESUS SPEAKS TO CHURCHES”

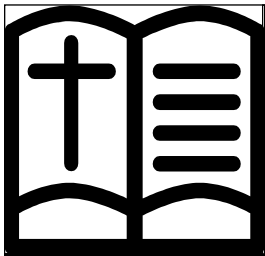
REVELATION 2: 18-29 Part 5

I. DOES IT MATTER? JESUS JUDGES HIS CHURCH

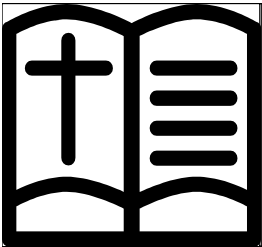
- A. The One with complete authority to judge the church;***
 - 1. He formed it to represent Him until He receives the Kingdom and crushes rebellion***
 - 2. He formed it to bring the good news of the kingdom to the rest of the occupied territory***
 - 3. He formed it to be the disciple-making community as a proof of His person***
- B. He is the Beginner and Ender of all things; He conquered death completely; eternal and immortal***
- C. His Word is a sharp, two-edged sword that divides the thoughts and intents of people***
- D. He is also the fiery-eyed judge of what is true***

II. THE CHURCH IN FULL CORRUPTION

- A. It has a good appearance to the culture around it; it is not its works for which it is being judged; appearances are deceptive***
- B. What has corrupted it is its infidelity to Him; same problem Israel had!***
 - 1. Fidelity is continuing faithfulness and loyalty***
 - 2. It is not simply one committing to another in a public act; it is continuing with the dedication that led to the public act regardless of finding some presumed flaws presently***
 - 3. It is loyalty even if something “better” is seen***



4. *Israel kept the appearances of fidelity but the heart of fidelity was gone; someone else had caught their affections and they had begun to pay attention; this is infidelity*
 5. *Saving faith (fidelity) is not simply a profession of interest during some critical time in one's life; it is a life of devotion to Him; not merely the appearance of devotion by expected duties*
- C. *Their attention was captured by the seductive teaching of a prophetess within the church whose likeness was that of Jezebel of Ahab's day*
1. *Not a condemnation of women but of a character trait and a spiritual assumption made: forceful, assertive, demanding, persuasive, willful and arrogant*
 2. *It is a condemnation of disloyalty and seduction to follow a different lover; she persuades and seduces church members*
 - a. *To commit sexual immorality; this is unhampered, conscience-breaking and dehumanizing*
 - b. *To eat things sacrificed to idols; this is about identity, ritual, fellowship, community, and becomes a violation of conscience and soul as meals are a unifying factor in relationships*
- D. *This level of violation to God He meets with the same mind as that of the Antediluvian world—death and destruction. The mind can't change.*



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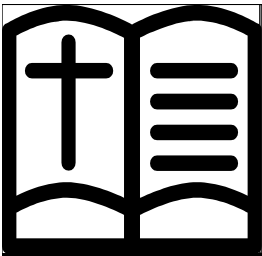
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