

# “The Morning Star: Thyatira Pt 2”

(Rev 2:24-29)



Truth Matters Church, Inc.

# Housekeeping



## ☞ Pergamum:

Rev 2:17b To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

☞ Name is onoma which means authority of cause

☞ This will tie into Thyatira's promise

☞ Revelation is to be viewed both historically and prophetically

# Exposit: Rev 2:24



24 But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them – I place no other burden on you.

- ❧ “But I say to you” is addressed to “the rest who are in Thyatira”
  - ❧ Consistent throughout this book of prophecy, Jesus goes local, to future (end times) back to local
- ❧ Here in v. 24 Jesus is coming and speaking locally to those who are in Thyatira
- ❧ For those “who do not hold this teaching (the teaching of Jezebel)” and “who have not known (ginōskō) the deep things of Satan” and have not played harlot with her, Jesus places no other burden (baros) on them
- ❧ QUESTION: What is the “burden” in context?

# Exposit: Rev 2:24



24 But I say to you, the rest who are in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not known the deep things of Satan, as they call them – I place no other burden on you.

❧ ANSWER: Resisting sexual immorality! This truth principal extends beyond Thyatira to the end of the church age!

❧ Sexual immorality and engaging in idol worship is associated with the deep things of Satan “as they (those who engage in it) call them”

# Exposit: Rev 2:25



25 Nevertheless what you have, hold fast until I come.

❧ “what you have” – a present possession. I’ll let Paul tell us what that is  
2 Corinthians 11:1-3

1 I wish that you would bear with me in a little foolishness; but indeed you are bearing with me. 2 For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy; for I betrothed you to one husband, so that to Christ I might present you as **a pure virgin**. 3 But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from **the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ**.

❧ The believers in Thyatira who were not led astray to the teaching of Jezebel, were like pure virgins holding on to the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ!

❧ TRUTH: no matter how evil and dark the world gets, we are not to pursue its lusts, but instead in simplicity and purity devote ourselves to Christ!

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; 27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father;

- ✧ All of the 7 letters end with a promise which will be received at the end of this age
- ✧ “He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end” is a promise not limited to just those 7 churches, but to all believers for all time!
- ✧ All believers who keep themselves from sexual immorality, idolatry, and the lusts of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and pride of life, Jesus will not only allow you to eat from the tree of life (which is in the Paradise of God), be given the crown of life, given hidden manna, and a white stone (with a new name written on it), but He will also give...

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



- ❧ “TO HIM...AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; 27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father;
- ❧ Jesus was quoting Psalm 2...

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



Psalms 2:1-6

1 Why are the nations in an uproar  
And the peoples devising a vain thing?  
2 The kings of the earth take their stand  
And the rulers take counsel together  
Against the LORD and against His Anointed,  
saying,  
3 "Let us tear their fetters apart  
And cast away their cords from us!"  
4 He who sits in the heavens laughs,  
The Lord scoffs at them.  
5 Then He will speak to them in His anger  
And terrify them in His fury, saying,  
6 "But as for Me, I have installed My King  
Upon Zion, My holy mountain."

7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD:  
He said to Me, 'You are My Son,  
Today I have begotten You.  
8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations  
as Your inheritance,  
And the very ends of the earth as Your  
possession.  
9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron,  
You shall shatter them like earthenware.'"  
10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment;  
Take warning, O judges of the earth.  
11 Worship the LORD with reverence  
And rejoice with trembling.  
12 Do homage to the Son, that He not become  
angry, and you perish in the way,  
For His wrath may soon be kindled.  
How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!



# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



Psalms 2:1-6

1 Why are the nations in an uproar  
And the peoples devising a vain thing?  
2 The kings of the earth take their stand  
And the rulers take counsel together  
Against the LORD [God the Father] and against  
His Anointed [God the Son], saying,  
3 "Let us tear their fetters apart  
And cast away their cords from us!"  
4 He [God the Father] who sits in the heavens  
laughs, The Lord [God the Father] scoffs at them.  
5 Then He [God the Father] will speak to them in  
His [God the Father's] anger  
And terrify them in His [God the Father's] fury,  
saying,  
6 "But as for Me, I [God the Father] have installed  
My King [Jesus]  
Upon Zion, My holy mountain [Jerusalem]."

7 "I [David] will surely tell of the decree of the  
LORD: He said to Me [Son of David], 'You are My  
Son, Today I have begotten You [God the Son].  
8 'Ask of Me [God the Father], and I will surely  
give the nations as Your [God the Son's]  
inheritance, And the very ends of the earth as  
Your [God the Son's] possession.  
9 'You [Jesus] shall break them [the nations] with  
a rod of iron, You [Jesus] shall shatter them like  
earthenware.'"  
10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment;  
Take warning, O judges of the earth.  
11 Worship the LORD [God the Father] with  
reverence And rejoice with trembling.  
12 Do homage to the Son, that He [the Son] not  
become angry, and you perish in the way,  
For His [Jesus's] wrath may soon be kindled.  
How blessed are all who take refuge in Him [Jesus]!

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



- ✧ Psalm 2 is end time prophecy of the return, rule and reign of Messiah!
- ✧ This is part of the Davidic Covenant (Son of David)
- ✧ God the Father will install His King in Jerusalem and He (Israel's king) will shatter His enemies and rule over them with a rod of iron
- ✧ This is what Jesus was alluding to in this letter to Thyatira
- ✧ Jesus promises he who overcomes and keep His deeds to the end will not only be included in His earthly reign, but will be given authority of the nations!

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



- ✧ With Psalm 2 in mind, let's relook at v. 26-27 and insert the subjects  
26 He [the believer] who overcomes, and he [the believer] who keeps My [Jesus's] deeds until the end, TO HIM [the believer] I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; 27 AND HE [Jesus] SHALL RULE THEM [the nations] WITH A ROD OF IRON, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I [Jesus] also have received authority from My Father;
- ✧ The promise in Rev 2:26-27 & Psa 2 that applies not only to the believers in Thyatira, but all believers who follow is this: believers will be granted authority over the nations!
- ✧ When is that?
- ✧ But before that time comes...

# Exposit: Rev 2:26-27



- ✧ Before Jesus arrives, His doulos and His followers (Pentecost → end of the age) will be ruled, killed and dominated by evil world rulers!
- ✧ Before Jesus arrives, we look like pathetic losers believing a fantasy and fairytale who have been the object of much hostility and tribulation by the world
- ✧ But the TRUTH and promise in this letter is: believers who overcome and keeps Jesus's deeds until the end Jesus will grant them "AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS"
- ✧ TRUTH: Currently Christians are ruled and dominated by the world since the birth of Christianity. The time will come when the script will be flipped where Christians will rule and dominate the nations!
  - ✧ This is behind the white stone w/new name (onoma) written on it!
- ✧ The promises don't end there...

# Exposit: Rev 2:28



28 and I will give him the morning star.

- ☞ Another promise Jesus makes is to give him who keeps himself from marrying the world is he will be given “the morning star” “proinos astēr”
- ☞ To understand this promise, we’ll need to look at both the Scripture and understand this from their audience’s POV
- ☞ First, let’s look to Scripture when “morning star” or its equivalent was used

# Exposit: Rev 2:28



Isaiah 14:12	2 Peter 1:19	Revelation 22:16
<p>12 “How you have fallen from heaven, O <b>star of the morning</b> (helel), son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations!</p>	<p>19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the <b>morning star</b> (phōsphoros) arises in your hearts.</p>	<p>16 “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright <b>morning star</b> (proīnos astēr).”</p>

# “Morning Star”



Let's look a little more closely into Isaiah's usage:

Isaiah 14:12-15

12 “How you have fallen from heaven,  
O star of the morning (**helel**), son of the dawn!  
You have been cut down to the earth,  
You who have weakened the nations!

13 “But you said in your heart,  
'I will ascend to heaven;  
I will raise my throne above the stars of God,  
And I will sit on the mount of assembly  
In the recesses of the north.

# “Morning Star”



Let's look a little more closely into Isaiah's usage:

Isaiah 14:12-15

14 'I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High.'

15 "Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol,

To the recesses of the pit.

☞ This passage is widely accepted to be speaking of the fall of Satan

☞ King of Babylon as well

☞ In fact, this is the only time in the OT (star of the morning; morning star) helel was used

☞ The root for helel means "shine" or "shining one" and the Latin Vulgate translators rendered this "luciferos" or what we know today as Lucifer



# “Morning Star”



- ❧ In Isaiah's time, helel was rooted in ancient mythology and associated with a celestial being being confined to the lowest depths
- ❧ But what was most interesting to me was helel was also associated w/Venus
  - ❧ Venus is aka the morning star in ancient mythology
- ❧ Anyhow, in Isa 14 it was prophecy and judgment on the king of Babylon, Assyria, and Philistia (modern day Israel)
- ❧ What's also interesting is Jesus is pulling from Isaiah and applying it as a promise to His faithful followers in the letter to Thyatira
  
- ❧ Let's continue on and...

# “Morning Star”



Let's look a little more closely into Peter's usage of morning star:

2 Peter 1:19-21

19 So we have the prophetic word made more sure, to which you do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the **morning star** (phōsphoros) arises in your hearts. 20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

☞ Although transliterated "morning star" it's not proīnos astēr but phōsphoros

☞ phōsphoros is a compound of two Greek words which means to bring light

# “Morning Star”



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- ☞ To 1<sup>st</sup> century believers, they would have associated proīnos astēr and phōsphoros with ancient mythology as referring to gods of one of the planets (usually Venus) and even the sun which brings light to the earth
- ☞ In context Peter he associates phōsphoros with the return of Jesus

# “Morning Star”



And last but not least, let's look a little more closely into Jesus's other usage of morning star:

Revelation 22:16

16 “I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright **morning star** (proīnos astēr).”

☞ Here Jesus applies the proīnos astēr to Himself

☞ So we have

☞ Morning star in Isaiah are: fall of Satan and kings

☞ Morning star equivalent in Peter is: Jesus's coming

☞ Morning star in Jesus's closing remarks: applies this to Himself

☞ Pulling this all together and taking it into context, here's what I believe is behind the promise of the morning star made to the believers in Thyatira...

# “Morning Star”



- ❧ When Jesus promises to give him who overcomes the morning star, He is promising that He will grant him authority over the nations when Jesus returns to earth!
- ❧ This is precisely what Jesus said a couple of verses prior:  
26 He who overcomes, and he who keeps My deeds until the end, **TO HIM I WILL GIVE AUTHORITY OVER THE NATIONS; 27 AND HE SHALL RULE THEM WITH A ROD OF IRON**, AS THE VESSELS OF THE POTTER ARE BROKEN TO PIECES, as I also have received authority from My Father; 28 and I will give him the morning star.
- ❧ LOCAL TRUTH: The believers in Thyatira who did not play harlot with the world will be rewarded by being given authority to rule over the nations during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ!
- ❧ UNIVERSAL TRUTH: All believers who did not play harlot with the world will be rewarded by Jesus and part of that reward is being given authority to rule over the nations during the millennial reign of Jesus Christ!

# “Morning Star”



- ❧ I believe there's more to this specific promise
- ❧ When you take into consideration that morning star reference in OT/NT are associated with mythology, gods of planets and even the sun
- ❧ I believe that in addition to ruling the nations, being received by Jesus, Jesus is alluding to the reality that we will rule over the fallen angels!
- ❧ Can this be supported with Scripture?
- ❧ Anyone want to take a guess?

# “Morning Star”



☞ The apostle Paul speaks on this in 1Cor:

1 Corinthians 6:1-4 (lawsuits among believers discouraged)

1 Does any one of you, when he has a case against his neighbor, dare to go to law before the unrighteous and not before **the saints**? 2 Or do you not know that **the saints will judge the world**? If the world is judged by you, are you not competent to constitute the smallest law courts? 3 Do you not know **that we will judge angels**? How much more matters of this life?

☞ “we will judge the world” is referring to the millennial reign of Christ

☞ “we will judge angels” – we (Paul and saints) will judge angels?

☞ When? Sometime after His return! – fulfillment of Ps 2!

☞ In other words, Jesus will grant the saints to rule nations and judge angels!

☞ This, I believe, is part of the promise made in this letter and behind Jesus’s statement “I will give him the morning star”!

# “Morning Star”



CONJECTURE: Do I believe that planets and stars play a part in God's redemptive will and plan? I DO. Satan wanted to raise his throne above the stars of God and convinced a 1/3 of the angels to rebel with him.

Throughout ancient history, through mythology, Olympic gods, horoscopes or otherwise, Satan and his demons wanted to lay claim of deity and power and wanted to be considered wise, feared and worshiped. What better way to do this than to take credit for being the god of planets and stars!

It is possible that Jesus is countering that claim by attributing the “Morning Star” (reference of Venus) to Himself! Remember, He's the One standing amongst the lampstands with 7 stars in His right hand. Why were stars equated with angels? This could help explain why. Jesus is the brightest of them all!



# Exposit: Rev 2:29



29 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

- ❧ As mentioned previously, this is not only a call to to heed the Word of God (or else), but this is also a call to remember what was revealed in Scripture, including, the teachings of the parables
- ❧ APPLICATION: if we want to get into serious end times study, including the book of Revelation, we need to make sure we constantly go back to the Scriptures (both OT/NT) and pay special attention to the parables taught by our Lord about “the kingdom of heaven”
- ❧ And with God’s help and grace we’ll continue to endeavor to do that.
- ❧ That takes us to the end this letter to Thyatira and end of chapter 2
- ❧ Next up: Sardis (4 down; 3 more to go) Amen. Amen