

HEALING ANGEL

A MESSAGE OF HEALING FOR THE FAMILY
Revelation 2:18-29

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SCRIPTURES

A MESSAGE OF HEALING FOR THE FAMILY

Revelation 2:18-29

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA--REVELATION 2:18-29

*Write this letter to the angel of the church in Thyatira.
This is the message from the Son of God,
whose eyes are like flames of fire, whose feet are like polished bronze:*

"I know all the things you do. I have seen your love, your faith, your service, and your patient endurance. And I can see your constant improvement in all these things.

*But I have this complaint against you. You are permitting that woman--
that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet--to lead my servants astray.
She teaches them to commit sexual sin and to eat food offered to idols.
I gave her time to repent, but she does not want to turn away from her immorality.*

*Therefore, I will throw her on a bed of suffering, and those who commit adultery with her
will suffer greatly unless they repent and turn away from her evil deeds.*

*I will strike her children dead.
Then all the churches will know that I am the one who searches out the thoughts and
intentions of every person. And I will give to each of you whatever you deserve.*

*But I also have a message for the rest of you in Thyatira who have not followed
this false teaching ('deeper truths' as they call them--depths of Satan, actually).
I will ask nothing more of you except that you hold tightly to what you have until I come.*

*To all who are victorious, who obey me to the very end,
To them I will give authority over all the nations.
They will rule the nations with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots.*

*They will have the same authority I received from my Father, and I
will also give them the morning star!*

*Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and
understand what he is saying to the churches.*

HEALING ANGEL

Teaching

Preach the word of God. Be prepared whether the time is favorable or not.
Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching. 2 Timothy 4:2 (NLT)

CHAPTER 1

INFLUENCED BY THE GODLESS AFFLUENT

HEALING ANGEL is a study of the Great I am and his patience and perseverance with mankind! The Bible is the book of all books. A book telling about God All Mighty who came to earth being all God, in the form of the man Jesus Christ. A book, a living book, telling mankind of everything we need to know to receive everything we need for living a godly life. A book that has been widely rejected and ignored, but is the most relevant, and heart piercing book ever penned. I have had the privilege of spending many many hours for many many years reading and studying this most precious book. I want to share with any who want to hear, what I have learned.

God has a plan, and being All mighty, his plan will be fulfilled, completed to the very last detail. God is love. He is gracious and merciful. But he is also a God of justice. God is all knowing, all powerful, and is everywhere. God sees the intentions and motives of everyone. Yes, he created the universe and holds all things together, but he also can see every right motive and stinking thought in each heart. However scary that might sound, when we are a friend of Jesus Christ, when He is wholeheartedly our Lord and Savior we have nothing to fear.

Revelation is the last book of the Bible, where God revealed his plan for the future to his apostle John. God appeared to John, and like others who saw God and recorded their experience in the Bible, fell at His feet as though they were dead!

Revelations 2:17

But Jesus laid his right hand on John and said,

“Don’t be afraid! I am the First and the Last.

I am the living one. I died, but look--I am alive forever and ever!

And I hold the keys of death and the grave.”

God sees everything. He is quick to acknowledge what we are doing right, in fact He delights in his kids! He smiles down on his loving, obedient children. God’s warns his people of his dissatisfaction of the way they are living, the sins they are committing, and their need to change.

God is God and we are not. God makes the rules. We can ignore the rules, that is our choice, a gift given to us by God. We call it freewill! God created us not as robots, but breathing people, created in the image of God, with the power to choose how we will live this God given life!

God is the creator and he controls everything. No matter what we think of God, or whether we even believe He exists, God is the boss, always, no exceptions! We have the power to choose what we will do, but God, with all power and authority, executes judgment or blessing.

Here is another awesome peculiarity about God. Everyone is given a multitude of chances to listen to and respond to Him, for we are told it is **God's kindness that leads us to repentance**. When we are his kids, we can be forgiven an infinite number of times! Because he is the God of grace, he forgives us our sins instead of punishing us as we deserve. We must repent to receive God's gracious act of forgiveness. Jesus Christ wipes away our sins, throws them into the sea of forgetfulness and remembers them no more. The privilege of repentance is a most awesome gift given to mankind.

Acts 3:19

***Now repent of your sins and turn to God,
so that
your sins might be wiped away.***

Then times of refreshment will come from the presence of the Lord,..."

GOD'S MESSAGE OF HEALING TO THE CHURCH OF THYATIRA

In the last book of the Bible, Revelation, are recorded seven warnings to seven churches that existed in the first century. It was written by the apostle John, while in prison on Patmos Island. From the island one could look across and see the coast of present day Turkey, where these seven churches were located. We are going to study the warning and promise of healing sent to the angel of the Thyatira church.

God sent angels to tell them what they were doing right, to tell them of things they needed to change, and to warn them of what would happen if they chose not to change. The warning was sent so the church could be healed. God's warnings are always sent with the intent to heal and help! God loved the church and wanted to bless them.

William Barclay says in his book, The Revelation of John: "Thyatira lay on the road which connected Pergamum with Sardis and went on to Philadelphia and to Laodicea, linking up with both Smyrna and Byzantium. That was the road by which the imperial post traveled; and it was crowded with the commerce of Asia and the east. Therefore, first and foremost Thyatira was a great commercial town." (Philadelphia, PA., The Westminster Press, 1976, page 101.)

In about 70 A.D. (Scholars don't agree on the exact date of many Biblical events.) Thyatira was at a crossroads in their spiritual lives. God sent an angel of healing and gave them God's complaint.

Revelation 2:20

"But I have this complaint against you.

You are permitting that woman--that Jezebel who calls herself a prophet--to lead my servants astray.

A CONDENSED HISTORY OF JEZEBEL, QUEEN OF ISRAEL

Hundreds of years earlier Israel and Judah stood at a crossroads in their spiritual life. Elijah, Jeremiah and other prophets spoke to Israel and Judah warning of harsh consequences if they did not listen and obey the warning from God. They were given opportunity to repent so that healing would come.

Jezebel was the wife of King Ahab, the sixth king of Israel. Their story is found in the Old Testament of the Bible. Scholars believe their royal reign was from 874-853 B.C. They were a wicked pair that *'lived a godless life of affluence'*.

Jezebel no doubt wore beautiful clothes made of silk. Her neck, arms, and ankles were adorned with the finest of jewelry. She had eunuchs and servants to answer her every request. When she walked into a room everyone stood and recognized her presence. She was the queen and before she was queen she was a 'princess.' She was probably beautiful, for Ahab was a rich, powerful, bad boy and could have any woman he wanted. He chose Jezebel. It wasn't because of her inner beauty and noble character for from the beginning God said it was sin for him to marry her. The Bible doesn't tell us why, but we can guess. Was Ahab drawn by her seductive beauty, her engaging personality, her proud spirit, or was it her quiet alluring charm?

The *'life of the godless affluent'* says we can 'have it all' without God. We can prosper, we can have fame, we can receive the applause of the crowd. It is as though the waves part when one of these godless celebrities walk into a room. Their lifestyle screams that to be somebody we need to be like them. As Solomon, the king who had everything the world had to offer says in Ecclesiastes, all is meaningless, vanity, chasing after the wind. Solomon was raised by David. The Bible records him as the man who loved God the most. God blessed David's son, and in time Solomon turned his back on God, seeking everything the world had to offer. This sin caused great consequences to the country of Israel and to his family. After living the life of the 'godless affluent', of trying everything and succeeding at much, he repented and turned back to God.

Ecclesiastes 12:8-14

"Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless."

Keep this in mind:

The Teacher was considered wise, and he taught the people everything he knew.

He listened carefully to many proverbs, studying and classifying them.

The Teacher sought to find just the right words to express truths clearly.

The words of the wise are like cattle prods--painful but helpful.

Their collected sayings are like a nail-studded stick with which a shepherd drives the sheep.

But, my child, let me give you some further advice:

Be careful, for writing books is endless, and much study wears you out.

That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion:

Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty.

God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.

A *'life of godlessness'* is one of self-centered, self-righteousness. It is all about me, myself, and I. Whatever you want you go after. Your pride tells you that you know what is right without God telling you what to do. The Bible tells us that the flesh is never satisfied, always wanting more. This is the sin of greed. Greed tells the flesh we need more, more, more. The Bible tells us our hearts are deceitful. We believe we will only be happy when we have one more 'thing. When we first tolerate these false teachings we feel good, for our flesh is being fed.

This life can be one of slow or quick deterioration downward. Because we always want a little bit more and a bit more. In time even having everything the world has to offer is not enough. We enter the gate of Satan and the 'more things' leads us down, down, down into more and more depravity. Tolerating the false teachings of Jezebel will lead us to sexual immorality, spiritual adultery, and compromising our integrity to have 'more, more, more!'

Jezebel worshiped idols and refused to be taught by God's prophets. In fact she killed many of them. She surrounded herself with false prophets telling her what she wanted to hear. Even as she faced death, Jezebel refused to repent of her sins. Her sins of idol worship, urging her husband to sin, influencing others to sin, and rejection of God's prophetic teachings, and turning her back on God were her undoing.

Ahab's and Jezebel's sinful life influenced the rest of the kings of Israel and in spite of prophet after prophet warning them to repent, each reigning king refused to listen, repent of their sins, and turn to God. In 720 B.C. God's judgment landed on Israel.

Just a short rabbit trail. Under Kings Saul, David and Solomon the twelve tribes of Israel were united as one nation. A consequence to King Solomon's rebellion toward God, the kingdom was split. One was called Judah, the other was Israel. Israel's first king was Jeroboam and he was wicked, in fact, all the kings of Israel were wicked. Israel was destroyed 200 years before Judah. And then in 586 B.C. Judah was destroyed and a remnant was taken captive to Babylon for 70 years. You can read **Jeremiah 3:6-10** to get a glimpse of this part of history.

ISRAEL AND JUDAH REJECTED THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE BLESSED AND HEALED BY GOD

The city of Thyatira stood as a crossroads leading to many places. It was called the gateway to Pergamum, which was the capital of the province. John called Pergamum in **Revelation 2:13** the city where Satan has his throne. The message sent to Thyatira says that they were listening to false teachings. The same teachings that Israel was listening to when it fell in 720 B.C. We can learn much from the Old Testament and what provoked God's anger during that time.

For you see our God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. What angered him over 2500 years ago, angered him in the first century, and angers him today. Please read the following warning that the prophet Jeremiah gave to Judah before their destruction.

Jeremiah 6:16-17

This is what the Lord says:

"Stop at the crossroads and look around.

Ask for the old, godly way, and walk in it.

Travel its path, and you will find rest for your souls.

But you reply, "No, that's not the road we want!"

I posted watchmen over you who said, 'Listen for the sound of the alarm.'

But you replied, 'No! We won't pay attention!'"

Jeremiah ministered under Judah's last five kings, and the nation was sliding quickly toward destruction. You see the people did not heed God's warnings given over and over to them and God's justice finally fell. You can read the book of Lamentations and relive the horror that Jeremiah saw and experienced as the consequences to not heeding God's warnings fell upon God's chosen people. Destruction fell because they refused to listen, believe, and obey. They

were stubborn and unteachable. Because of pride and a sense of false security they ignored the warnings given to them through God's prophets. The affluent people refused to give up their power and position and submit to God. God lifted his arm of protection over Judah and allowed them to be conquered by Babylon. Jeremiah wrote these words to the remnant to encourage and give them hope.

Jeremiah 29:10-13

This is what the Lord says,

"You will be in Babylon for seventy years.

But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and

I will bring you home again.

For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord.

***"They are plans for good and not for disaster,
to give you a future and a hope.***

In those days when you pray, I will listen.

If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me."

WHAT WILL WE DO WITH OUR OPPORTUNITY TO BE BLESSED AND HEALED BY GOD?

Are our sins similar to the sins of Thyatira? Does the church of 2014 let itself be influenced by the 'godless affluent?' Are we lured by the 'influence of the godless affluent'? Are we ensnared by the trap of needing more? Are our dreams for our lives dreams from God, or are they dreams inspired by the 'life of the godless affluent'? Church, Jesus Christ is to be our example and our influence, always.

Romans 12:2

Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but

let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

We are suppose to think like God thinks! So what about success? Please look at the awesome, freeing success God promises to all! Here is God's command to Joshua, a very successful general of Israel's army.

Joshua 1:7-9

Be strong and very courageous.

Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you.

Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left.

Then you will be successful in everything you do.

Study this Book of Instruction continually.

Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it.

Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

This is my command--be strong and courageous! For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:7-9 gives us the key to success. Carefully obey all of the Bible. Study your Bible continually. Live it all the time. The church is filled with precious brothers and sisters who feel as though they have failed, that they haven't

done enough, made enough money, won enough, been pretty enough, and the list goes on.

Church, wake up! BE SET FREE FROM STRIVING TO BE BETTER! We should walk with our heads looking to heaven, knowing God smiles and says we are successful. God's promises never fail! When we are living Joshua 1:7-9 even taking a walk with a precious grandchild, it is a success. You see for God everything is really EVERYTHING!

Oh look how God sees our success. Just live those verses in your everyday life with all your heart and YOU WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN EVERYTHING YOU DO in GOD'S EYES. Really does it matter what others think if All mighty God says we are successful?

CONCLUSION AND A CALL TO ACTION

Has the church of America stood at the crossroads of Christianity and taken many wrong paths? I believe we have, but God wants to give us another chance. God is calling out his warning to us today, will we repent and turn to him with all of our heart and soul? If we do, God promises healing. We will be renewed with God's strength and be able to resist the temptations of the godless affluent. We will bind ourselves with God, He will renew our strength, we will run and not be weary, we will walk and not faint.

- ***Let us get serious before God.***
- ***Let God examine each of our hearts and show us where we have sinned and ignored Him.***
- ***Let us humble ourselves, fall on our knees and repent!***
- ***Let us appreciate the privilege of holding a Bible, of reading God's love letter to the world!***
- ***Let us become determined to not be influenced by godless affluence.***
- ***We must no longer tolerate the counterfeit, false teachings of the world .***
- ***We must live by every word of God.***

COME ON CHURCH--RISE UP, BELIEVE GOD. TRUST IN, RELY ON, AND CLING TO HIM, FOR HE IS THE LORD AND SAVIOR OF THE WORLD. HE IS GOD ALMIGHTY.

HEALING ANGEL

SCRIPTURES

A MESSAGE OF HEALING FOR THE FAMILY

CHAPTER 1 □ SCRIPTURES

□ INFLUENCED BY THE □ GODLESS AFFLUENT □

Psalm 23:1-28

Truly God is good to Israel, to those whose hearts are pure. But as for me, I almost lost my footing.

My feet were slipping and I was almost gone. For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness. They seem to live such painless lives; their bodies are so healthy and strong.

They don't have troubles like other people; they're not plagued with problems like everyone else.

They wear pride like a jeweled necklace and clothe themselves with cruelty.

These fat cats have everything their hearts could ever wish for! They scoff and speak only evil;

in their pride they seek to crush others. They boast against the very heavens, and

their words strut throughout the earth. And so the people are dismayed and confused, drinking in all their words.

"What does God know?" They ask. "Does the Most High even know what's happening?"

Look at these wicked people--enjoying a life of ease while their riches multiply.

Did I keep my heart pure for nothing? Did I keep myself innocent for no reason?

I get nothing but trouble all day long, every morning brings me pain.

If I had really spoken this way to others, I would have been a traitor to your people. So I tried to understand why the wicked prosper. But what a difficult task it is! Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood the destiny of the wicked. Truly, you put them on a slippery path and send them sliding over the cliff to destruction.

In an instant they are destroyed, completely swept away by terrors.

When you arise, O Lord, you will laugh at their silly ideas as a person laughs at dreams in the morning.

Then I realized that my heart was bitter, and I was all torn up inside. I was so foolish and ignorant--

I must have seemed like a senseless animal to you. Yet I still belong to you; you hold my right hand.

You guide me with your counsel, leading me to a glorious destiny. Whom have I in heaven but you?

I desire you more than anything on earth. My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but

God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever.

Those who desert him will perish, for you destroy those who abandon you.

But as for me, how good it is to be near God!

I have made the Sovereign Lord my shelter, and

I will tell everyone about the wonderful things you do.

Philippians 3:17-21

Dear brothers and sisters,

pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example.

*For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes,
that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ.*

They are headed for destruction.

*Their God is their appetite,
they brag about shameful things, and
they think only about this life here on earth.*

But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives.

And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

*He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own,
using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.*