

Hold Fast

Revelation 2:18-29

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / May 24, 2026

Revelation 2:18-29 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: ‘The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze. ¹⁹ I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first. ²⁰ But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing My servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. ²² Behold, I will throw her onto a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation, unless they repent of her works, ²³ and I will strike her children dead. And all the churches will know that I am He who searches mind and heart, and I will give to each of you according to your works. ²⁴ But to the rest of you in Thyatira, who do not hold this teaching, who have not learned what some call the deep things of Satan, to you I say, I do not lay on you any other burden. ²⁵ Only hold fast what you have until I come. ²⁶ The one who conquers and who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, ²⁷ and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I Myself have received authority from My Father. ²⁸ And I will give him the morning star. ²⁹ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: ***Thanks Be To God!***

I. No One and Nothing Is Worth Trusting More Than Jesus.

Revelation 2:18 “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write: ‘The words of the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and whose feet are like burnished bronze.’”

A. *“eyes like a flame of fire”* — Jesus sees all.

Hebrews 4:13 “And no creature is hidden from His sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

B. *“feet are like burnished bronze”* — Jesus reigns over all.

1 Corinthians 15:25 “For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.”

Jesus sees what you cannot see, and Jesus rules what you cannot control.

II. Grace Should Make Us Eager to Do Good Works.

Revelation 2:19 “I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first.”

A. Good works are **not the root** of our salvation.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, ⁹ **not a result of works, so that no one may boast.**”

B. Good works **are the fruit** of our salvation.

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

*Good works are a terrible savior,
but they are beautiful evidence of a real salvation.*

C. Jesus commends the church for their good works:

- a. **works** — their visible obedience; the evidence of real faith in action.
- b. **love** — their devotion to God and genuine care for others.
- c. **faith** — their trust in Jesus, especially under pressure.
- d. **service** — their willingness to use their lives for the good of others.
- e. **patient endurance** — their perseverance; they kept going when faithfulness was costly.
- f. **greater works than at first** — they were growing, not coasting; their faith was producing more fruit over time.

III. Don't Make Peace With What Jesus Condemns.

Revelation 2:20-21 “But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing My servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. ²¹ I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality.”

4 Warning Signs of Compromise

1. We tolerate what Jesus confronts. — “...that you tolerate that woman Jezebel...”
2. We trust voices that sound spiritual. — “...who calls herself a prophetess...”
3. We call compromise “wisdom”. — “...teaching and seducing...”
4. We confuse God's patience with God's approval. — “I gave her time to repent...”

What Jesus condemns, we must not tolerate, spiritualize, rename, or excuse.

IV. Hold Fast Until Jesus Comes.

Revelation 2:25-29 “Only hold fast what you have until I come. ²⁶The one who conquers and who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, ²⁷and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I Myself have received authority from My Father. ²⁸And I will give him the morning star. ²⁹He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Holding fast — refusing to let go of Christ, His truth, and His promises when compromise would be easier.

Those who hold fast to Jesus now will reign with Jesus then.

This week → Read *Revelation 2:18–29* once daily.

Pray: *“Lord Jesus, You see all, You reign over all, and You are better than all. Show me where I am tempted to make peace with what You condemn. Strengthen me to hold fast to what You have given me, to repent where I need to repent, and to keep walking in the good works You prepared for me.”*

Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group discussion:

1. Revelation 2:18 describes Jesus as the Son of God with “eyes like a flame of fire” and “feet like burnished bronze.” How does it comfort and/or sober you that Jesus sees all and reigns over all?
2. Where are you most tempted to trust someone or something more than Jesus — approval, success, security, pleasure, comfort, control, or something else?
3. Revelation 2:19 shows that Jesus noticed the church’s works, love, faith, service, endurance, and growth. Which of those areas do you most want to grow in right now?
4. The church in Thyatira was rebuked for tolerating what Jesus condemned. Which warning sign of compromise is easiest to miss: tolerating what Jesus confronts, trusting voices that merely sound spiritual, calling compromise “wisdom,” or confusing God’s patience with God’s approval?
5. What is one area where obedience to Jesus feels costly right now, and what would it look like to “hold fast” in that area this week?