



# AUGUST

## DAILY READINGS

*Ezra "set his heart to study the law" (Ezra 7:10). Our prayer is that you would love God & others more as a result of being devoted to the word and applying it to your life and the church.*

### Sunday, Aug 2nd | "A Letter to the church in Thyatira" Rev 2:18-29

- [3] Rev 2:18-29 | What do Jesus' "eyes...like blazing fire" (v18) have to do with Thyatira? Also look at v23. How are Jesus' "feet...like burnished bronze" relevant?
- [4] Rev 2:18-29; 1:14-15; 19:11-15; Heb 4:13 | Why do you think Jesus used this description to introduce Himself to Thyatira?
- [5] Rev 2:18-29 | Summarize the good & bad aspects of the Thyatiran church's character. Which of these characteristics do you think He would say are true of The Gathering? Of your life?
- [6] Rev 2:21-28 | What can we learn about Christ's methods of dealing with His people from these verses? What instruction did Jesus give to the believers who had not fallen for the false teaching?
- [7] Rev 2:21-28 | Notice the statement of God's grace in v21. Consider the mercy of God in sending warning before judgment (Eze 33:7-11). How has God shown you mercy when you were deserving His judgment? Ask God to reveal areas where you may have relaxed your hold on truth or are deficient in your spiritual walk.
- [8] The church in Thyatira tolerated heretical teaching & influence. Ask God to establish The Gathering in the truth of His Word. Ask God to grant revival to the church worldwide, that He might be magnified & His grace might be displayed through us to our world.

### Sunday, Aug 9th | "A Letter to the church in Sardis" Rev 3:1-6

- [10] Rev 3:1-6 | Summarize the Sardis church's condition.
- [11] Rev 3:1-6; Mt 23:27-28 | How can a church appear to be alive & thriving, but be dead? How could the reference to "whitewashed tombs" in Matthew apply to the Sardis church?
- [12] Rev 3:1-6 | Does Jesus have anything good to say about Sardis, other than the church's reputation? What does that tell you?
- [13] Rev 3:1-6 | The church at Sardis was untroubled by persecution from pagans. How do you think the lack of persecution related to Sardis' problem?
- [14] Rev 3:5 | Jesus gives Sardis no promise of glory & authority, only the assurance that overcomers will not be blotted out from the book of life. What does this say about the way Jesus views churches like Sardis?
- [15] Rev 3:3; Mt 24:42-51; 1 Thes 5:6 | Why would Jesus' warning in v3 be frightening to the church in Sardis? Are you looking forward to the Lord's return? Are you ready?

### Sunday, Aug 16th | "A Letter to the church in Philadelphia" Rev 3:7-13

- [17] Rev 3:7-13 | Describe the Philadelphian church's strengths & weaknesses.
- [18] Rev 3:7 | How does Jesus describe Himself to this church? Look also at the following verses: Lk 1:35; 13:24-28; Mk 1:23-24; Jn 6:69; 1:9; 6:32; 15:1; 1 Jn 2:8; Isa 22:19-22
- [19] 1 Cor 16:8-9; 2 Cor 2:12; Col 4:2-3 | Describe the references to doors made by Paul. How should we determine whether an opportunity is a door being opened by God?
- [20] Rev 3:7-13 | What doors of service has Christ opened to The Gathering? To you personally? How are you responding?
- [21] Rev 3:7-13 | What encouragements does Jesus offer in these verses to those suffering persecution?
- [22] Rev 3:7-13; 2 Cor 12:9-10; 1 Cor 1:26-29 | Although the Philadelphian church was small, their faithfulness & reliance on the power of God allowed them to be used in supernatural ways (v9). Ask God to use The Gathering and you to accomplish works that are impossible with man, but possible with God – that He might get the glory.

### Sunday, Aug 23rd | "A Letter to the church in Laodicea" Rev 3:14-22

- [24] Rev 3:14-22 | What was the Laodicean church's problem? What can we learn about the Lord's character from what He says to this church?
- [25] Rev 3:14-22 | What does it imply that Jesus describes Himself as "outside the door" from the Christians at Laodicea?
- [26] Rev 3:14-22 | Would you consider The Gathering hot, cold, or lukewarm? The spiritual "temperature" of a church is determined by the spiritual condition of the individuals within that church. How can you encourage or help maintain a passion for Christ with our church body?
- [27] Rev 3:14-22 | Has there been a time in your life when your passion for Christ were greater than today? What factors have contributed to your present condition? If your heart is "hot" for God today, what do you need to do to protect it from growing cold?
- [28] Ps 51:17; Isa 55:1-2; 57:15 | Jesus encouraged the Laodicean church to come to Him for needs they didn't even realize they had. Ask God to reveal areas of spiritual need.
- [29] Rev 3:14-22 | Is Jesus at home & at work inside The Gathering or is He standing outside waiting to be welcomed in? What about your own life?

### Sunday, Aug 30th | Baptism Sunday



Pray for 5 people to know Christ



Pray for 3 people to invest in