

More Than Before

Scripture Reading — Revelation 2:18-19

“I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance, and that you are now doing more than you did at first.” — Revelation 2:19

Jesus’ letter to the church in Thyatira is the longest of his letters to the seven churches in Revelation 2-3. It begins with a reminder that Jesus has eyes “like blazing fire,” which means he can see clearly into all things. And his feet are described as “like burnished bronze,” meaning he is powerfully firm and able to stand against any threats to his churches, whom he corrects and protects.

Jesus praises this church for the character and quality of their faith. From the time that they first started to follow Jesus, their faith has grown. Jesus can see that their faithfulness and obedience have increased.

How has faith thrived in this community? Jesus identifies several characteristics that define this church. They have practiced love and faith. They have served God in the city where they have lived. And they have done this consistently, with perseverance.

Churches and followers of Jesus in every community can learn to live by faith more and more by following this example of the church in Thyatira. We can all find new ways to grow in our walk with God. Likewise, we are called to carry on in the good work we are doing.

Let love and faith show themselves in the way you live. Practice being a servant, as Jesus did, and do it consistently.

Prayer

Thank you, Father, for examples of service and love that are practiced more and more faithfully. By your Spirit’s power, help us to grow in love, faith, service, and perseverance. Amen.

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