

# Hold Fast to the Morning Star

November 9, 2025 | *Revelation 2:18-29*

# HOLD FAST TO THE MORNING STAR

REVELATION 2:18-29



## Observation: What is happening here?

- v. 18: Christ speaks to the church in Thyatira. He identifies Himself as the *Son of God*, whose eyes are like fire and feet like burnished bronze.
- v. 19: Jesus recognizes **four** things about the church: **love, faith, service, and patient endurance**. Their "*latter works exceed the first*", which shows growth with love as the foundation, as opposed to the church in Ephesus.
- vv. 20-23: He confronts the church for tolerating Jezebel, a false prophetess, who abused her power and led people into **idolatry** and **immorality**.
  - This is **not** an attack on women in ministry, but a **specific** person who led people to worship *other gods*.
  - Tolerance here means allowing someone to do wrong.
  - Christ warns of **judgment**: a *sickbed* for Jezebel, tribulation for those who don't repent. Yet He offers mercy to all who repent (change their mind), showing that He searches mind and heart.
- vv. 24-25: Christ encourages the faithful to remain in Him. He commands them to "*hold fast*" (remain) until He comes.
- vv. 26-28: To **overcomers**, Christ promises authority over the nations and the morning star.
  - Christ **IS** the morning star (*Revelation 22:16*).
  - We shine like a lamp, waiting for Christ come (*2 Peter 1:19*).

**Scriptures:** Revelation 2:18-29; Psalm 2:8-9; 1 Kings 21:23-25; 2 Kings 9:30-37; Malachi 3:2-3; Daniel 10:6; Jeremiah 17:10; 2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 22:16.

**Ontario Community Church:** Encouraging, Equipping and Engaging lives for Christ.

John 6:47 (ESV) "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life."

## Interpretation: What can we learn?

### **Christ refines us and searches our hearts**

- The "eyes like fire" and "feet like burnished bronze" show us the strength and power of Christ. This language is connected to *Daniel 10:5-6*.
- Christ knows our **minds** and **hearts**. Nothing is hidden from Him
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:18, 23; Malachi 3:2-3; Daniel 10:5-6; Jeremiah 17:10; Hebrews 4:13*.

### **Jezebel shows a pattern of abused power**

- In *1 and 2 Kings*, **Jezebel** waged war against God and His people to **idolatry** and **immorality**. She abused her power and used it for evil. This appears in *Revelation*: a prophetess using power to lead people away.
- Let us use what God has given to us for his glory and for the good of others.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:20-24; 1 Kings 16:31-33; 1 Kings 21:23-25; 2 Kings 9:22, 30-37*.

### **Christ is our hope, the Morning Star**

- There is reward for remaining in Christ even when faced with evil. Christ as the **Morning Star** will share His inheritance and authority; to **reign** with Him forever in the New Heaven and New Earth.
- We shine like lamps in the darkness. Christ is the Morning Star that we wait for. The night represents this age; the morning represents His return.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:25-28; Psalm 2:8-9; 2 Peter 1:19; Revelation 22:16*.

## Application: How should we live?

### **Receive the light of Christ**

- If you do not know the Lord, may you repent (change your mind) and receive the gift of salvation by believing in Christ.
- In salvation, receive a new identity and sustenance from Christ. Never be afraid to ask God to search you.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:23; Malachi 3:2-3; Psalm 139:23-24*.

### **Resist evil; let your lamp shine**

- You will face pressures from the world to compromise. Stay the course in Christ and resist evil. Set boundaries and refuse compromise.
- Honor God with your choices, your relationships, your worship.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:20-24; Acts 15:28-29; Romans 12:2*.

### **Go and share the hope of the Morning Star**

- Genesis 1:1-3 shows darkness, then light. There is always an end to every storm, light after darkness, and joy that comes in the morning.
- Share the gospel. Tell the world of the hope of Jesus.
- **Scriptures:** *Revelation 2:26-28; Philippians 3:20-21; Revelation 22:16*.

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