

## Intolerant Love

Set up: Balaam (Nu 22-25)/Nicolaitans

Balaam, Balak/Moab, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prophecy ~ blessed because no iniquity

Advice, Phinehas/Priesthood (Zeal) ~ Levites & golden calf

Balaam (Hebrew) = “destroyer of the people”

Nicolaitans (Greek) = “conqueror of the people”

Destroyed through Licentiousness (license, false grace)

Revelation Letters (Rev 2) – learn how Jesus thinks

Ephesus:

+ won't tolerate evil, hate deeds of Nicolaitans (God also hates – because it destroys)

- left first love, do the first works (not just feelings)

Pergamos:

+ won't deny Jesus in persecution

- tolerate doctrine of Balaam/Nicolaitans

Thyatira:

+ works (last more than first), love, service

- tolerate Jezebel (false prophecy, sexual immorality)

Holiness vs. Love – Both!

(Phl 1:9-11) <sup>9</sup>And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Jesus Started with Approval, Ended with Hope (letters)

Requires Maturity and Skill

(Jn 13:34) <sup>34</sup>“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Loving like Him Require His Spirit

Unusual Reward for Thyatira (all others heavenly)

(Rev 2:26-27) <sup>26</sup>“And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations. <sup>27</sup>“He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels’, as I also have received from My Father;

Holiness & Love Prerequisites to Rule PSALM 2

(Rev 19:15) He Himself will rule them (nations) with a rod of iron.

(Rev 5:10) <sup>10</sup>And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.”

We are being trained to Rule His way

(Ps 89:14) <sup>14</sup>Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before Your face. (Chiastic –emphasis, correlation)

His Government founded on Holiness and Love (works of service)

(Mt 20:25-26) <sup>25</sup>But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them.

<sup>26</sup>“Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant.

Part 2 – We must first learn to rule ourselves.