

Revelation 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But unto you I say, and unto the rest in Thyatira, as many as have not this doctrine, and which have not known the depths of Satan, as they speak; I will put upon you none other burden.

Analysis

The 'depths of Satan' likely refers to Gnostic claims of superior knowledge through embracing evil, or Jezebel's teaching that experiencing immorality provided deeper spiritual understanding. Christ rejects this perversion—true knowledge comes through obedience, not experimental sin. The promise 'I will put upon you none other burden' offers relief; faithfulness to apostolic truth suffices without added legalistic requirements. Reformed theology emphasizes Scripture's sufficiency against both antinomian license and legalistic additions.

Historical Context

Some Gnostic groups taught that spiritual believers could indulge fleshly desires without spiritual harm, claiming special knowledge ('gnosis') of evil's powerlessness over the enlightened. Others required extreme asceticism. Christ steers between these errors, requiring only faithfulness to received teaching without burdensome innovations.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How does the promise of 'no other burden' combat both legalistic additions and claims that deeper spirituality requires special experiences?
2. What modern teachings parallel the 'depths of Satan'—claiming that exploring sin leads to spiritual maturity?

Interlinear Text

ἀμ̄ιν δὲ λέγοντες· καὶ λοιποῖς τοῖς ἐν Θυατείροις
unto you But I say and unto the rest G3588 in Thyatira
G5213 G1161 G3004 G2532 G3062 G1722 G2363

ὅσοι οὐ ἔχοντες τὴν διδαχὴν ταύτην καὶ οἵτινες
as many as none have doctrine G3778 and which
G3745 G3756 G2192 G1322 G2532 G3748

οὐ εγνωσαν τὰ βάθη τοῦ Σατανᾶ ὡς λέγοντες·
none have the depths G3588 of Satan as I say
G3756 G1097 G899 G4567 G5613 G3004

οὐ βάλω ἐφ' ὑμᾶς ἄλλο βάρος
none I will put upon you other burden
G3756 G906 G1909 G5209 G243 G922

Additional Cross-References

Acts 15:28 (Parallel theme): For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;

2 Corinthians 2:11 (Parallel theme): Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

2 Corinthians 11:3 (Parallel theme): But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

Revelation 12:9 (Parallel theme): And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Revelation 13:14 (Parallel theme): And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

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