

## REVELATION TO JOHN 2

### NLET

#### THE LETTER

#### TO THE MESSENGER OF THE EKKLESIA IN EPHESUS

#### THE ADDRESSEE

1 To the Messenger<sup>1</sup> of the Ekklesia in Ephesus write:

#### A DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE LETTER

"Now, the One Who holds *and governs* the Seven Stars in the right hand *that is* His, the One Who is walking in the midst of the Seven Lampstands – *namely*, the gold *ones*, says these *things*:

#### COMMENDATIONS

2 'I know

- the deeds *that are* yours<sup>2</sup>, and
- the toil and trouble, and
- the endurance *that is* yours, and
- that you are not able to bear bad *people*.

And, having tried the ones who are claiming themselves to be<sup>3</sup> apostles – and they are NOT! – you even found them *to be* false.

3 And, having borne *these things*, you also have endurance<sup>4</sup> for the sake of the Name *that is* Mine. And, you did not grow weary<sup>5</sup>.

#### CRITICISM

4 Yet, I have against you that you have left the Love *that is* yours – *namely*, the First Love.

#### REMEDY

5 So then,

- remember from where you have lastingly fallen out<sup>6</sup>; and,
- change your thinking; and,

<sup>1</sup> 'Messenger' – The Greek word here is ἀγγέλω from which English derives the word 'angel'. In the New Testament this word might refer to heavenly messengers, to the Divine Messenger, to human messengers, or even demonic messengers. This translator suspects that Jesus is referring to the messengership – that is, the whole number of the ones who proclaim the message about Jesus in each ekklesia.

<sup>2</sup> 'yours' – This possessive pronoun is singular in Greek. Throughout these letters all the pronouns and the verbs referring to the addressees are also singular.

<sup>3</sup> f35 includes the infinitive 'to be' here. The NU omits it.

<sup>4</sup> f35 has the word order 'having borne these things, you also have endurance' here. The NU has 'having endurance you also have borne'.

<sup>5</sup> f35 has 'you did not grow weary' (an aorist verb) here. The NU has 'you did not lastingly grow weary' (an perfect verb).

<sup>6</sup> f35 has 'have lastingly fallen out' here. The NU has 'have lastingly fallen'.

- do the first deeds;

lest I come to you quickly<sup>7</sup> and I shall remove the Lampstand *that is* yours from the place *that* belongs to it – if ever you might not change your thinking.

#### ADDITIONAL COMMENDATION

6 Yet, you have this: that you hate the works of the Nicolaitans<sup>8</sup>, which I, *for My part*, also hate!

#### ADMONITION TO HEAR

7 Let the one who has ears hear what the Spirit is saying to the Ekklesias!

#### A BLESSING TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS

To the one who conquers<sup>9</sup> I shall give <sup>10</sup> to eat from the Tree of Life which is in the Paradise of the God *Who is Mine*<sup>11</sup>.

#### THE LETTER TO THE MESSENGER OF THE EKKLESIA IN SMYRNA

#### THE ADDRESSEE

8 And, to the Messenger of the Ekklesia in Smyrna write:

#### A DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE LETTER

"Now, the First and the Last Who became dead – and, He is living! – says these *things*:

#### COMMENDATIONS

9 'I know *what is* yours<sup>12</sup> –

- the Deeds, and<sup>13</sup>
- the Tribulation, and
- the Beggary (rather, you are rich!), and
- the Blasphemy <sup>14</sup> from the ones who say *that* they are Jews. And, they are NOT! Rather, *they are* a

<sup>7</sup> f35 includes the adverb 'quickly' here. The NU omits it.

<sup>8</sup> 'Nicolaitans' – The Greek word 'Νικολαϊτῶν' might be combination of 'he conquers' (νικᾷ) and 'people' (λαόν), i.e. 'conquerors of people'. Thus, it may refer to leaders in the ekklesias who become dictators. Or, the word may possibly refer to a follower of Nicolaus, a heretic at Ephesus.

<sup>9</sup> 'to the one who conquers' – in Greek νικῶντι, the verb stem found also in the term 'Nicolaitan'.

<sup>10</sup> f35 does not include 'to him' here. The NU includes it.

<sup>11</sup> f35 includes the pronoun translated as 'Who is Mine' here. The NU omits it.

<sup>12</sup> 'yours' – This possessive pronoun is singular in Greek.

<sup>13</sup> f35 includes the words 'the deeds, and' here. The NU omits them.

<sup>14</sup> f35 does not include the preposition ἐκ here. The NU includes it.

synagogue of the Satan<sup>15</sup>.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BEAR THE COMING PERSECUTION

10 By no means fear the things you are about to suffer!  
Look! Indeed,<sup>16</sup> the Devil<sup>17</sup> is about to throw<sup>18</sup>  
*some* from among you into prison, in order that you  
might be proven *genuine*. And, you shall have  
pressure *for* days – ten *of them*.

Become faithful even to death. And, I shall give to  
you the *honorary Wreath*<sup>19</sup> *consisting of the Life!*

ADMONITION FOR ALL TO HEAR

11 Let the one who has an ear hear what the Spirit  
says to the Ekklesias!

A BLESSING TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS

The one who keeps on conquering shall certainly not  
suffer for wrong-doing in accord with the Death –  
*namely, the Second Death.*”

THE LETTER

TO THE MESSENGER OF THE EKKLESIA IN  
PERGAMUM

THE ADDRESSEE

12 And, to the Messenger of the Ekklesia in  
Pergamum write:

A DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE LETTER

“Now, the One having the large, broad sword –

- the two-edged *one*,
  - the sharp *one*,
- says these *things*:

COMMENDATIONS

13 ‘I know

- the deeds *that are* yours and<sup>20</sup>,
- where you dwell – where the Throne of the Satan *is!*  
And, you are holding fast *to* the Name *that is* Mine.

And, you did not deny the Faith *that is* Mine<sup>21</sup> in  
the<sup>22</sup> days in which<sup>23</sup> Antipas –

- the witness *who is* Mine,
- the faithful *one*<sup>24</sup>,
- this *one*,

was killed before you, where the Satan dwells.

CRITICISM

14 Yet, I have a few *things* against you. *It is* because  
there you have ones who are holding to the teaching of  
Balaam, who taught<sup>25</sup> the *man* Balak to lay a deathtrap  
in front of the sons *of* Israel – *namely*,

- to eat things which were sacrificed to idols, and
- to prostitute *themselves*<sup>26</sup>.

15 Thus, also you, *for your part*, have ones who are  
holding to the teaching of the Nicolaitans similarly.

REMEDY

16<sup>27</sup> Change your thinking!

WARNING

Now, if not, I am coming to you quickly. And, I shall  
fight with them by means of the the large, Broad Sword  
from the mouth *that is* Mine.

ADMONITION FOR ALL TO HEAR

17 Let the one having ears hear what the Spirit says  
to the Ekklesias.

BLESSINGS TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS

To the one who conquers I shall give to him to eat  
from<sup>28</sup> the Manna – *the Manna* having been lastingly  
hidden.

And, I shall give to him a precious stone – *that is*, a  
white *one*. And, upon the precious stone *there is* a  
new name having been lastingly written, which no one  
knows except the one receiving *it.*”

THE LETTER

TO THE MESSENGER OF THE EKKLESIA IN THYATIRA

THE ADDRESSEE

<sup>15</sup> ‘Satan’ – The Greek text has a transliteration the Hebrew word  
‘שָׂטָן’, meaning ‘adversary’. ‘Satan’ is an English transliteration of  
this Hebrew word.

<sup>16</sup> f35 includes the adverb ‘Indeed,’ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>17</sup> ‘Devil’ – an English word that traces back to the Greek word  
that is used here: ‘διάβολος’. It means ‘slanderer’

<sup>18</sup> f35 has ‘to throw’ (an aorist infinitive) here. The NU has ‘to be  
throwing’ (a present infinitive).

<sup>19</sup> ‘honorary wreath’ – a wreath, garland, or crown awarded for  
public service or for winning in the Olympic games.

<sup>20</sup> f35 includes the words ‘the deeds that are yours, and’ here.  
The NU omits them.

<sup>21</sup> f35 includes the words ‘the deeds that are yours and’ here.

The NU does not include it.

<sup>22</sup> f35 includes the words ‘in the’ here. The NU omits them.

<sup>23</sup> f35 includes the words ‘ἐν αὐτῷ’ here. The NU omits them.

<sup>24</sup> f35 does not include the word that would be translated as ‘that  
is Mine’ here. The NU includes it.

<sup>25</sup> f35 has ‘taught’ (an aorist verb) here. The NU has ‘was  
teaching’ (an imperfect verb).

<sup>26</sup> ‘prostitute themselves’ – i.e., by going in to temple prostitutes of  
Moab, or by marrying the unbelieving women of Moab.

<sup>27</sup> f35 does not include the conjunction ‘So then,’ here. The NU  
includes it.

<sup>28</sup> f35 includes the words ‘to eat from’ ἀπο here. The NU omits  
them.

18 And, to the Messenger of the Ekklesia in Thyatira write:

*A DESCRIPTION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE LETTER*

“Now,

- the Son of the God,
  - One having
    - the eyes *that are* His as flames of fire, and
    - the feet *that are* His similar to fine brass,
- says these things:

*COMMENDATIONS*

19 ‘I know of you

- the Deeds, and
- the Love, and
- the Faith, and
- the Service, and
- the Endurance *that is* yours.

And, the Deeds *that are* yours – *that is*, the last ones – are greater than the first ones!

*CRITICISM*

20 Yet, I have against you that you tolerate the woman *that is* yours<sup>29</sup> - namely, Jezebel. The woman reckons<sup>30</sup> herself as a prophetess. And, she teaches. And, she misleads the Slaves *that are* My own to prostitute *themselves*<sup>31</sup> and to eat meats offered to idols.

*HOW THE SON OF GOD SHALL DEAL*

*WITH THE FALSE PROPHETESS AND HER FOLLOWERS*

21 And, I gave to her a period of time in order that she might change *her* thinking. And, she does not wish to change *her* thinking from the prostitution *that is* hers.

22 Look! I am letting fall -

- her into a bed and
- the ones who are committing adultery with her into tribulation – a great one, if ever they might not change *their* thinking away from the deeds *that come* from her!

23 And, I shall condemn the children *that are* hers to death.

And, all the Ekklesias shall know that ‘I AM’, the One Who searches kidneys and hearts.

And, I shall give to each of you according to the deeds *that are* yours.

*ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE REST*

24 Now, I keep on saying

- to you,
- to the rest,
- to the ones in Thyatira, as many as do not hold ‘the Deep Things of the Satan’ (as they say),

“I shall NOT let another burden fall<sup>32</sup> upon you.”

25 Nevertheless, hold fast what you have until whenever I shall come.

*BLESSINGS TO THE ONE WHO CONQUERS*

26 And, as for

- the one who conquers and
- the one who keeps on keeping the deeds *that are* Mine until an end,

I shall give to him authority over the Ethnicities.

27 ‘And, he shall shepherd them by means of a rod – *that is*, an iron one. Like the vessels – *that is*, the earthenware ones, they shall be shattered to pieces<sup>33,34</sup>’ 28 as I, for My part, also have lastingly received from the Father *Who is* Mine.-

And, I shall give to him the Star – *that is*, the Early Morning Star.

*ADMONITION FOR ALL TO HEAR*

29 Let the One having ears hear what the Spirit says to the Ekklesias. ”

<sup>29</sup> f35 includes the pronoun translated as ‘that is yours’ σοῦ here. The NU omits it.

<sup>30</sup> f35 has ‘reckons’ (a present tense verb) here. The NU has ‘one who is reckoning’ (a present participle).

<sup>31</sup> ‘prostitute themselves’ – i.e., by going in to temple prostitutes, or by marrying the unbelieving women.

<sup>32</sup> f35 has ‘I shall ... let ... fall’ (a future tense verb) here. The NU

has ‘I am ... letting ... fall’ (a present tense verb).

<sup>33</sup> f35 has ‘they shall be shattered to pieces’ (a future, passive verb) here. The NU has ‘they are being shattered to pieces’ (a present, passive verb).

<sup>34</sup> A reference to Psalm 2:9