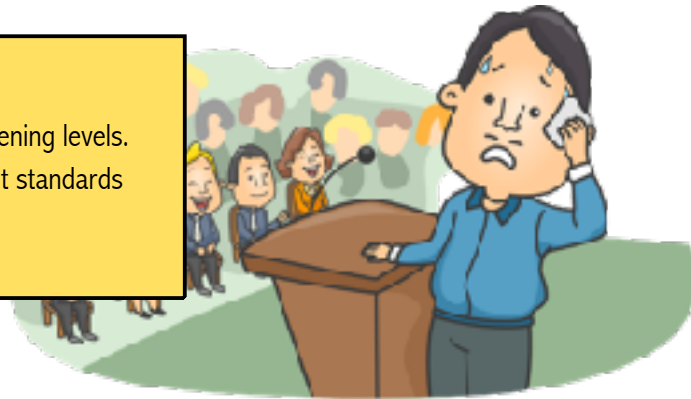


- Non-Compliance Violations!
- Tolerance levels at life-threatening levels.
- Immediate reversal of current standards and processes required.



- Thyatira (modern Akhisar) was a fortified city located some forty miles southeast of Pergamum in a broad valley that leads to the Hermus River. It was near the border of the provinces Mysia and Lydia and was claimed by both. In 190 B.C. the Romans entered the valley and conquered the city, which, because of its location in the flat valley, had little protection against superior forces. Thyatira was situated along the trade route from Pergamum to Sardis; from Smyrna a leading artery led through the valley to this city. Hence, the location of Thyatira was along major trade routes that stimulated its economic growth.
- In addition, the local artisans produced a variety of merchandise, for they were bakers, painters, tanners, tailors, potters, and workers in wool, linen, and metal (chiefly copper); and there were slave dealers. Thyatira was an industrial center controlled by guilds, that is, trade unions. These guilds paid homage to the pagan gods Apollo and Artemis (also known as Tyrimnos), and they worshiped at the shrine of Sabbathē. **Members of the guild were obligated to attend festivals in honor of these gods, to eat meals in their temples, and to indulge in sexual promiscuity.**
- **Noncompliance with these rules meant expulsion from the trade union, lack of employment, and poverty.** Christians who refused to honor pagan gods, eat meat sacrificed to an idol, and engage in sexual immorality jeopardized their material necessities. **They were regarded as outcasts of society.**
- [Kistemaker, S. J., & Hendriksen, W. (1953–2001). *Exposition of the Book of Revelation* (Vol. 20, pp. 135–136). *Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.*]

—>**Jezebel was condemned** ... but not because she was a woman, or a prophetess or a teacher, but because she was a FALSE TEACHER and a SELF-APPOINTED PROPHETESS ...

Wives sometimes prophesied in the New Testament:

- (1 Corinthians 11:5 ESV) But every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven.

Philip’s four unmarried daughters prophesied:

- (Acts 21:8–9 ESV) On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied.

Six women in the Bible are called prophetesses:

- (Exodus 15:20 ESV) Then **Miriam** the prophetess ... (Judges 4:4 ESV) Now **Deborah**, a prophetess ... (2 Kings 22:14 ESV) ... **Huldah** the prophetess ... (Nehemiah 6:14 ESV) ... and also the prophetess **Noadiah** ... and Isaiah’s second wife ... (Isaiah 8:3 ESV) And I **[Isaiah] went to the prophetess** ... (Luke 2:36 ESV) And there was a prophetess, **Anna**.

Jezebel’s teaching was a lie:

- ... and Jezebel is the same: to deceive God’s people by persuading them to adopt a lifestyle that would allow them to be accepted in the world and to continue membership in the church. [Kistemaker, S. J., & Hendriksen, W. (1953–2001). *Exposition of the Book of Revelation* (Vol. 20, p. 138). *Grand Rapids: Baker Book House.*]

Jezebel’s life was a lie:

- Jezebel ... “called herself a prophet.” In other words, she claimed that her teaching was a direct message from God. [Osborne, G. R. (2002). *Revelation* (pp. 155–156). *Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.*]

Jezebel’s teaching was demonic:

- Satan’s so-called deep secrets could refer ironically to the gnostics’ claims to know (in an exclusive manner) the deep secrets of God; the Lord’s response to such a claim would then be that their “deep secrets” are inspired by Satan, not by God. [Beasley-Murray, G. R. (1994). *Revelation. New Bible commentary: Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.*]