

CHRIST'S SCRIPTURE PROPHECY ON CONTEMPORARY EVANGELICALISM

Part IV: Christ's All-Sufficiency Applied For Victory

B. Christ's Fitting Interruptive Address To Evangelical Charismatics (Revelation 3:19)

I. Introduction

- A. If Christ predicted our current Evangelical era of Church History and critiqued our errant actions and beliefs thereby, we should expect Him to offer His **specific solutions** to these needs.
- B. Rev. 3:19 **continues** Christ's words offering **solutions** for changing our **errant beliefs** in Evangelicalism.

II. Christ's Fitting Interruptive Address To Evangelical Charismatics, Revelation 3:19.

- A. Christ **abruptly breaks** literary **stride** with His counsel in Rev. 3:18 to say in verse 19 -- and we translate directly from the Greek New Testament text -- "As many as (i.e., everyone) I myself (emphatic pronoun) **emotionally love** I reprove (of sin) and instructively punish! Therefore, be zealous and repent!"
- B. The **abruptness** of this literary **stride break** coupled with the text's **word usage** in the *Greek New Testament text* shows this message is pointedly directed to **Charismatic Evangelicals** as follows:
 1. Richard Quebedeaux's Ph. D. thesis (Oxford) published in 1976, *The New Charismatics*, p. 30 claims "Pentecostal theology has always been Arminian," and its worship is "marked by . . . spontaneity."
 2. Since we have shown in this lesson series Jesus addressed the Calvinist-Arminian debate (III, B, 2), and since the Charismatic Movement is Pentecostal, Christ's **abrupt** literary **style break** at Revelation 3:19 from that of Revelation 3:18 **fits** a spontaneous address to *Charismatic Evangelicals*.
 3. Also, Scripture's **Greek word use** picks up words **beloved** by **Charismatics** in their *favorite passages*:
 - a. Rev. 3:19 alludes to Hebrews 12:5-6 that in turn cites Prov. 3:11-12 (LXX), but with substituting the word *phileo* (for "love") in place of *agapao* that occurs in these other passages. Well, *phileo* accents "natural affections . . . passion" more than does *agapao*, cf. R. C. Trench, *Syn. of the N. T.*, p. 41-42, and fits the **Charismatic** emphasis on "subjectivism," *Ibid.*, Quebedeaux, p. 31.
 - b. Christ's call to "be zealous" is from the Greek word used elsewhere in the New Testament in the same good sense **only** in 1 Corinthians 12:31, 14:1 and 14:39 (cf. Abbott-Smith, *A Man. Grk. Lex. of the N. T.*, p. 195; Arndt & Ging., *A Grk.-Eng. Lex. of the N. T.*, p. 338), and **Charismatics use** these passages to claim we must be "zealous" to gain and not hinder the gaining of sign gifts today, *Ibid.*, p. 13-18. Yet, the **form** of the verb in Rev. 3:19 is the **newer, rare** one -- *dzayleuo* versus the 1 Corinthians *dzayloo* form (*Ibid.*, Abbott-Smith). This **newer** form reflects the Charismatic claim to enjoy the blessings of the Spirit via the alleged sign gifts in the latter days of Church History!
- C. As such, Christ calls **Charismatic Arminians** to **REPENT** of their errant theology and actions as follows:
 1. As we saw Christ critiquing errant Arminian theology with its errant resulting spirituality in Rev. 3:17 (Part III, B, 2 in this series & Part III, A-E of our series on "Examining Contested Reformed Theology Beliefs"), since the **Charismatic Movement** is a **product** of **Arminian theology** (II,B,1 above) Christ **uses** terms favored by Charismatics in a spontaneous context in Rev. 3:19 to **critique Charismatics**.
 2. We itemize Christ's **critique** of the **Charismatic theology** and **practices** as follows:
 - a. Opposite "wealth-health" Charismatic gospels by leaders like Oral Roberts, Katherine Kuhlman et al. that godliness yields material, physical blessings (*Ibid.*, Quebedeaux, p. 84-92), Jesus said those He **emotionally loves He convicts** and **punishes to correct** (**versus** such views), Rev. 3:19a!
 - b. Hence, using favorite Charismatic terms, Jesus calls **today's** Charismatic Arminian to "be zealous" **not** to gain his false sign gifts, but to **repent** of errant subjective theology and its resulting practices!
 - c. Also, Rev. 3:22 with 3:19 shows the **Holy Spirit speaks today** in the **written words** of Rev. 3:19! Well, as shown in these Rev. 3:17, 19 **written words**, the Spirit **Himself counters** Arminian-based, Charismatic, subjective beliefs and acts, so the claims by Jack Deere and Wayne Grudem et al. that they gain God's revelation apart from written Scripture, which revelation allegedly **promotes subjectivism** are **false!** (Armstrong, gen. ed., *The Coming Evangelical Crisis*, p. 77-90)

Lesson: Jesus calls Charismatic-Arminian believers to be "zealous" to "repent" of their errant SUBJECTIVE-BASED beliefs and practices! May they with US turn to the Lord's truth!

Application: May CHARISMATIC believers with US repent of error and turn to the Lord's truth!