

The Church at Pergamos

Revelation 2:12-17

Introduction:

50-mile north of Smyrna

Pergamos was the capital of Asia at one time 400 years / Emperor Worship

The city was up on high hill overlooking the Mediterranean

Had famous library 200,000 parchments.

Paganism / Hedonism / Idolatry

Asclepius (Scalpel) medical healing / Asclepius Soter (Savior) = God of Healing

Physician and Priest worked together to heal people in Pergamos

Known as the City of the Brass Serpent (Medical symbol a coil snake)

Alter to Zeus at the pinnacle of city (100 square ft. wide / 40 ft. high)

Pergamos /similar to the word pergamentum meaning sheepskin or parchment

Pergamum / Polygamy or marriage

Verse 12 The Sword of the Lord

1. The sword is sharp
2. Sword always represented authority
3. Sword = word of God
4. Each characteristic of Jesus went to each church
5. Word of God has authority.
6. Ephesians 6 The sword of the Spirit

Verse 13 You are in a Tough Town

1. You dwell in Satan's seat (Alter to Zeus)
2. You hold fast to my name
3. You have not denied the faith
4. Even when Antipas died

5. He was slain where Satan dwells.

Verse 14-15 You are on a Slippery Slope

1. You have people among you that adhere to the doctrine of Balaam
2. Number 22-25 / Jude 11 / 2 Peter 2:15
3. Balaam went into business with the pagan world.
4. Sexual stumbling block before the children of Israel
5. Corrupt God's people through intermarrying and fornicating with pagan world.
6. You don't marry the world.
7. The Nicolaitans sought promotions in priesthood
8. They would sell the convictions and souls to get an earthly promotion.
9. I hate what they do
10. Constantine 313 AD the church married the world in history
11. This stopped persecution but perverted the church.
12. AIDS virus deadly.
13. The church looked just like the world.
14. David Jeremiah "There is a toleration that is treacherous and there is a peace that is paralysis"
15. G Campbell Morgan "The reason the church has lost her influence is because the church looks just like the world."
16. We must guard against this in 2016
17. The world is conservative and liberal.
18. Trump example warnings / He is our President not our Pastor
19. Be in the world but not of it.
20. Engage the world and evangelize it bot the other way around.

Verse 16 You must Repent or Reap Wrath

1. Repent
2. I will come quickly and fight against you
3. With the sword of my mouth

Verse 17 You Must Hear to Receive the Promise

1. He that has an ear let him hear
2. To him that overcomes this get 3 promises from God
3. I will feed manna Exodus 16:32-34
4. The manna is hidden
5. You will discover in the word of God
6. Priest were distinct and it was symbolized by stone over their hearts
7. The white stone (Pergamos used darker stones to build city but the Alter of Zeus was made with white stone)
8. Gladiators that were victorious would be given a white stone of acquittal.
9. The white stone stood out among dark stone
10. This is referring to holiness and distinctness in darkness
11. The new name Revelation 19:12
12. I will give them a new name only he knows

Conclusion:

1. We to minister in a tough culture and Satan has his hand on every wickedness we see
2. We to are on a slippery slope with looking too much like the world
3. We as God people must repent or else God will fight against us
4. We too can be victorious and receive hidden manna / a white stone. New Name

Challenge:

1. Seek God in Prayer and stay true to righteousness
2. Do an honest inventory of your life and ask am I worldly
3. Repent and be holy and set apart.

