

Lesson 5 – Revelation 2:12-17
Pergamos: The Church in _____

1. The Introduction (v12).

a. Pergamos:

- 1) Located 55 miles north of Smyrna, it became a Roman province in _____.
- 2) It was a center of pagan worship with temples to Zeus, Athena, and Doinysus, as well as to the Asklepios, who was the _____ god of _____ and referred to as the god of _____.
- 3) It was a center of education with a university renowned for its library consisting of _____ volumes.
- 4) _____ was one of its famous products and seems to have originated there.
- 5) It was the first city in Asia (A.D. 29) with a temple for the worship of _____.

b. “These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges”:

- 1) A picture of the One who stands in _____ over the churches, and in particular, those guilty of _____ His Word.
- 2) The two edged nature of the sword, which is a reference to the Word of God, identifies its power to dissect and expose that which is _____ and _____ and that which is _____ and _____.
- 3) Its two edge nature also serves to _____ those who believe from those who don't. As Dr. Walvoord states, “The Word of God is at once the instrument of _____ and the instrument of _____” (John Walvoord, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*, 66).

2. The Commendation (v13).

- a. In the midst of many evil influences and a town under the control of Satan, this church is commended for _____ to His name and not _____ the faith.
- b. The name of Jesus Christ and the body of Christian truth which accompanies faith in Christ is what _____ us from the pagan world and brings _____ and _____ against us.

- c. This church has stayed faithful to Christ even after one of its own had been _____.
- d. “The faithfulness of the church at Pergamos is a challenge to Christians today to stand true when engulfed by the evil of this present world” (Walvoord, 67).

3. The Condemnation (v14-16).

- a. Their Rebuke for _____ (v14-15):
 - 1) What was “the doctrine of Balaam”?
 - a) *Read* Num 25:1-9. Why did this happen?
 - 1] *Read* Num 31:15-17.
 - 2] In this passage, we learn that it was Balaam who “had _____ King Balak to corrupt Israel by tempting them to sin through intermarriage with their women and the resulting inducement to worship idols” (Walvoord, 68).
 - 3] *Read* Ex 34:12-16.
 - b) “The doctrine of Balaam therefore was the teaching that the people of God should _____ with the heathen and _____ in the matter of idolatrous worship” (Walvoord, 68).
 - c) What happened to King Solomon and why? (see 1 Kings 11:1-13)
 - d) Why did the Holy Spirit have Paul issue the command recorded in 2 Cor 6:14?
 - 2) What was “the doctrine of the Nicolaitans”?
 - a) The doctrine of the Nicolaitans is believed to have advocated “complete freedom in Christian conduct including participation in _____ and _____” (Walvoord, 58).
 - b) It sounds much like what was going on in the church of Corinth – see 1 Cor 5:1-2.
 - 3) Why is doctrinal compromise so bad?
 - a) Because as Paul states in Gal 5:9, “A _____ leaven leaveneth the _____ lump.”
 - b) *Read* 2 Cor 6:17.
 - 1] The more the church allows itself to be joined to the world through doctrinal compromise the more difficult it becomes for the church to maintain a

_____ between itself and the world and to preserve the _____ of biblical doctrine.

2] If you sleep with _____, then you are going to wake up with _____.

3] In other words, doctrinal compromise leads to moral, ethical, and spiritual compromise.

b. Their Warning to Repent (v16):

1) “Repent” = Aor, Act, Imp of μετανοέω (metanoëo) = “pious sorrow for unbelief and sin and a _____ them to God” (Zod., 969).

2) What might true repentance in this situation look like? (see 1 Cor 5:3-13)

3) What is going to happen if they do not repent of their compromise with the truth and the moral and spiritual impurity resulting from it?

4. The Conclusion (v17).

a. What you must give up can’t compare with what you gain.

b. The hidden manna is most likely a reference to _____ and His sufficiency to meet all of your needs.

c. The white stone is thought to represent your _____ in God’s heavenly courtroom because of your faith in Jesus.

d. And “the name symbolizes the personal _____ of the _____ that are beyond this world and the assurance of _____” (Walvoord, 71).