

“Revelation #5”

Revelations 2: 12 - 17 (Pergamos The Compromising Church)

Review: Smyrna...

- Strengths: Endurance through suffering and poverty... **Yet they are rich!**
- Fault or Rebuke: None, they remained faithful in the face of persecution and even martyrdom. **(V10... Admonished to be faithful unto death)**
- In Smyrna we are introduced to the second death... **Rev 2:11 and Rev 20: 11-15**
- If you adhere to the doctrine of the timeline of the Christian church throughout its lifespan and history. **(Smyrna covers the time from approximately AD100 – AD325)**

Text V12... Read.

“These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword.”

- The sharp two-edged sword... what is the meaning?

Hebrews 4: 12 – 13 *“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart... And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”*

- The word of God exposes us... but also transforms us! (*“It’s living and powerful”*)

Text V13... Read.

Pergamos: *“Was an important center of learning, especially of medicine; it was the site of the Sanctuary of Asclepius, the god of healing... contained the second largest library in the ancient world... it was also famous for it’s emperor worship and it’s great alter to Zeus.”*

- It hosted numerous beautiful, albeit pagan temples.
- The historical time period of Pergamos was from. (AD313 – AD 538)
- During which time Christianity was made the official religion of Rome

"I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne is."

- Despite this... they remained faithful, even in the face of martyrdom.
- The mention of Antipas suggest they were willing to die for their faith.

Text V14... Read.

- Who was Balaam and Balak? (Numbers Chapters 22 thru 24)
- Balaam was a prophet and Balak was king of Moab... (Num. 22: 1- 6)

2 Peter 2:14-16 NASB False prophets within the church. *"Having eyes full of adultery that never cease from sin, enticing unstable souls, having hearts trained in greed, accursed children; abandoning the right way, they have gone astray, having followed the way of Balaam, the son of Beor, who loved the reward of unrighteousness; but he received a rebuke for his own offense, for a mute donkey, speaking in a human voice, restrained the insanity of the prophet."*

Text V15-16... Read.

- Nicolaitans: Basic Nicolaitans belief has infiltrated even today.
- #1 Christ did away with the law, the ten commandments. We have a misunderstanding of not under law but under grace... Romans 6: 1, 14
- #2 Also believe that what we do with our bodies doesn't matter.

Romans 3: 31 *"Do we than make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law."*

Text V17... Read.

- Hidden Manna... Exodus 16: 31-33 / John 6: 31-35, 51, 56-58 (Read)
- White Stone / New Name...

Ancient judges often used a white stone to indicate that a person was pardoned... a black stone if guilty.

1 Corinthians 10: 1-4