



Hillside Baptist Church Sunday Night Study

An Exposition of Revelation

Letter to the Church in Pergamum **Revelation 2:12-17**

I. The Opening Address and Self Identification of Christ (2:12)

A. To the Angel of the church in Pergamum
- An ancient city of western Anatolia in Asia Minor, now the modern village of Bergama, in Mysia, Turkey. Located about 16 miles from the Aegean Sea alongside the Caicus River Valley. 120,000 people was its estimated population.

B. The Words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword
(Rev. 1:16; Heb. 4:12) The Righteous Judge

1. For discipline (1 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb 12:3-11)
2. For judgment (Dan. 5:18-21)
3. For comfort (The word of God remains forever)

II. A Word of Commendation (2:13)

A. I know where you dwell

1. Where Satan's Throne is...where Satan dwells

B. Yet you

1. Hold fast my Name
2. Did not deny my faith (literally "faith in me")
(Matt. 10:32-33; 1 Tim. 5:8)

C. Even in the days of Antipas

1. My faithful witness (Rev. 1:5)
2. Who was killed among you.

III. A Word of Criticism (2:14-15)

But I have a few things against you.

1. You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam...
 - a. Who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel (Num. 22:5; 31:16; 2 Pet. 2:14-16; Jude 10-12)
 - b. To eat food sacrificed to idols (Acts 15:29; 1 Cor. 8:10-11)
 - c. To practice sexual immorality (porneuō)
(Num. 25:1-4; 1 Cor. 10:6-9)
2. You also have some who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

IV. A Call to Repentance (2:16)

- A. Therefore Repent.
- B. If Not, I will come to you soon (immediate judgment and foreshadow)
- C. And **I will war against them** with the sword of my mouth
(Josh 13:22; 1 Thess. 2:8; Rev. 19:21)

V. A Call to Hear and a Promise for the one who Conquers (2:17)

- A. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches
- B. To the one who conquers
 1. I will give some of the hidden manna (Ex. 16:33-35; Jn 6:31-35)
 2. I will give him a white stone (Ex. 16:31; Num. 11:7; Rev. 19:7-9)
 3. With a new name no one knows except the one who receives it.
(Rev. 3:12; 22:3-4; Isa. 62:2; 65:15)

Application

1. There is no place for dual allegiance in the Christian life.
2. The unchecked compromise of some is the complete compromise of the whole.
3. Live in light of your new identity in Christ.