

## “Unwavering Truth”

### **7** Marks of a Healthy Church

Rev. 2:12-17  
part 3

#### INTRODUCTION

- easier to be friendly with the world than faithful to the Lord

#### 1. Outside battlefield: a commendation

- Pergamum: where Satan *dwells* e
  - + Trajan's Temple
  - + Zeus' altar
  - + Aesculpium (healing center)
- did not deny Jesus' name

#### 2. Inside battlefield: a call to repentance

- teachings of Balaam: how to defeat Israel

Num. 22

Num. 25:1-3

- teachings of Balaam: how to defeat Christians

“It is as much a crime to disturb the peace when truth prevails as it is to keep the peace when truth is violated. There is therefore a time in which peace is justified and another time when it is not justifiable. For it is written that there is a time for peace and a time for war and it is the law of truth that distinguishes the two. But at no time is there a time for truth and a time for error, for it is written that God's truth shall abide forever. That is why Christ has said that He has come to bring peace and at the same time that He has come to bring the sword. But He does not say that He has come to bring both the truth and falsehood.”  
– Blaise Pascal

- Jesus' rebuke: tolerating truth & falsehood

Mt. 16:17

“Let no scorn of the world, let no ridicule of smart writers, let no sneers of liberal critics, let no secret desire to please and conciliate the public, tempt us for one moment to leave the old paths, and drop the old practice of enunciating doctrine—clear, distinct, well-defined and sharply-cut doctrine—in all utterances and teachings.”

– J.C. Ryle

#### CONCLUSION