



THE BOOK OF

REVELATION

REVELATION

The Things That Are

Letters to the 7 churches

Pergamum

The Compromising
Church

Revelation

Pergamum

Intro:

These letters are for all churches for all time.

I. Ephesus: Name means Desired One

A. Taught us that God demands devotion, not just doctrine.

B. Our service to Christ must be borne out of love.

II. Smyrna: Name means death and comes from the Greek word, murrh.

A. We are promised persecution and the degree of our persecution is in direct proportion to our faithful image bearing of Christ

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Intro:

Leviticus 18:1-5 was about the beginning of the people of God.
As His people we are:

- A.** to keep His commandments,
- B.** seek purity, and,
- C.** remain separate from the world.

This was always His plan from the beginning and is still His plan for the church today. **James 4:4; 1 John 2:15.**

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The City

Pergamum was a vile, idolatrous and immoral city. It was one of the first cities to implement Emperor worship. It had a few characteristics:

- A.** It boasted a huge library with over 200,000 volumes.
- B.** It was a major center for Greek culture with a statue of Zeus commemorating victory over the Gauls.
- C.** Because of its numerous gods it was known as the religious center of Asia Minor.
- D.** It was fanatical about its devotion to emperor worship which was deadly for Christians.

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US Army Med. Corps

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The Church

Pergamos has the Greek meaning of “marriage”.
No record in NT. Could have been started by a disciple from Paul’s ministry in Ephesus. cf **Acts 19**.

I. The Correspondent

- A. Taken from John’s vision in **Rev. 1:12-16**
- B. The two edged sword alludes to the word of God.
- C. It is a weapon of judgement and wrath. **Rev. 19**

II. The Commendation

- A. I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is.
- B. You have held fast My Name
- C. You did not deny My faith, even when some were killed

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The Church

III. The Concerns

- A. Some held to the teaching of Balaam Num.22-25.
 - 1. He was a sorcerer and banned from the assembly of God. Deut. 23:3-6
- B. Some held to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.
 - 1. The name means “Ruler of People”

IV. The Correction

- A. The only remedy for sinful behavior is to repent.
- B. Sin will never be suppressed by compromising with it.
- C. Judgement begins first with the household of God.

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V. The Council

The Lord gives three promises to the overcomer: 1Jn. 5:4-5

1. To give them of the *manna*, Jn. 6:48-51
2. To give them a *white stone*, our pass to enter into the marriage feast of the Lamb, to enjoy all the provisions of God in Christ, Eph. 1:3
3. A new name, unique to us, one that was written in the book of life.

The Conclusion

The church at Pergamum failed to heed the biblical warning against worldliness, and was in danger of experiencing the severe chastisement from the Lord.