A Message to the Church at Pergamum

The Church That Dwells Near Satan's Throne. Revelation 2:12-17

Revelation 2:12-17

¹² "And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this: ¹³ 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. ¹⁴ But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality. ¹⁵ So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.¹⁷ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

Introduction:

Christ commends the Church at Pergamum for its persevering witness in the midst of persecution, condemns it for its spirit of idolatrous compromise, and exhorts it to overcome this in order not to be judged but to inherit end-time fellowship and identification with Christ.

The Salutation (Rev. 2:12a)

"To the angel of the church in Pergamum write"

- The City of Pergamum:
- ZEUS
- ATHENA
- DIONYSIUS (BACCHUS)
- ASCLEPIUS

Christ's Self-designation (Rev. 2:12b)

"The One who has the sharp doubleedged sword"

Commendation (Rev. 2:13)

The Church Persevered Through Tribulation.

Charge (Rev. 2:14-15)

The Church was Tolerant of False Teaching.

What is the Doctrine of Balaam?

Antinomianism: The heresy that sin cannot violate a covenant!

Life Truth: **Satan Tries to Turn God away From People or Turn People** away From God.

Admonition and Warning (Rev. 2:16)

Repent or Suffer Judgement!

Promise to Overcomers (Rev. 2:17)

"Hidden Manna" – Food of <u>LIFE</u> "White Stone" – <u>VICTORY</u> "New Name" – New Identity