

Bible Study

The Seven Churches Part 3 - Pergamos



Revelation 2:12

Greeting
and
Identification
313-538 A.D.

And to the angel of the church in **Pergamos** write;
These things saith He which hath the
sharp sword with two edges;

Pergamos = *height/elevation*

Elevation of 1000 feet - naturally defended with a river flowing within and next to it
Famous Temple of Zeus dedicated to Asclepius, serpent god of healing
Kings felt safe banking their money there - Lysimachus deposited \$10 million
Massive library that rivaled the Alexandrian library in Egypt
Jealous Ptolemy V imposed an embargo on papyrus to keep Pergamos from growing
In response bookmakers in Pergamos invented a superior replacement: parchment
Many ruins of Pergamos are still standing today near Bergama in modern Turkey

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313 A.D Religious liberty declared bringing an end to the persecution of Christians
What Satan could not accomplish in persecution, he sought through compromise
321 A.D. Constantine declares Sunday the official day of rest for the Roman Empire
Christians, now being accepted, began to intermarry with pagans
Pagan beliefs and practices began to slowly infiltrate the Christian church

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Revelation 1:16 And He had in His right hand seven stars:
 and ***out of His mouth*** went a **sharp two-edged sword:**
 and His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word,
 and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Hebrews 4:12 For the **word of God** is quick, and powerful,
 and **sharper than any two-edged sword**,
 piercing even to the **dividing asunder of soul and spirit**,
 and of the joints and marrow, and is
 a ***discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.***

Revelation 2:13 ***I know thy works***, and where thou dwellest, even
 where **Satan's seat** is: and thou **holdest fast** **My name**,
 and hast **not denied** **My faith**, even in those days wherein
 Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was slain among you,
 where Satan dwelleth.

Pergamos practiced the **cult worship of a living emperor** before anywhere else
Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon - **seat of Satan's counterfeit system of religion**
Mithraism ancient Mesopotamian sun worship & other Oriental mystery religions
539 B.C. Cyrus overthrew Babylon **supreme pontiff** of the Chaldean mysteries fled
Mithraism and the other mysteries **found a new refuge in Pergamos**
67 B.C. Pompeii made **Mithraism the official religion of the Roman legions**
Rome adopted the **symbol of the eagle** - emperors called **Pontifex Maximus**
508 A.D. Clovis 1st Catholic king pledged military to support the **Supreme Pontiff**

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Condition where Satan's seat is: and thou **holdest fast** My name,
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Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was slain among you,
where Satan dwelleth.
- Matthew 23:9 And call no man your father upon the earth:
for one is **your Father**, which is in heaven.
- Matthew 23:10 **Neither be ye called masters**:
for one is **your Master**, even **Christ**.
- John 10:33 ...**blasphemy**; and because that thou,
being a **man**, **makest thyself God**.
- Mark 2:7 Why doth this **man** thus **speak blasphemies**?
who can forgive sins but God only?
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Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was slain among you,
where Satan dwelleth.
- Revelation 14:12 Here is the patience of the **saints**:
here are they that **keep the** commandments of God,
and the faith of Jesus.
- Romans 3:22 Even the righteousness of God
which is by faith of Jesus Christ
unto all and **upon all them that believe...**
- Romans 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed
from faith to faith: as it is written,
The just shall live by faith.

- Revelation 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast
Problem there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam,
who **taught Balak** to cast a **stumbling block before the**
children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and
to commit fornication.
- Revelation 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the
doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing **I hate**.
- Psalms 125:2 As the mountains are round about Jerusalem,
so the **LORD is round about His people**
from henceforth even for ever.
- Zechariah 12:3 And in that day will I make **Jerusalem** a burdensome stone
for all people: **all that burden themselves with it**
shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth
be gathered together against it.
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- Deuteronomy 32:16 They provoked Him to jealousy with strange gods,
with abominations provoked they Him to anger.
- Deuteronomy 32:17 They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom
they knew not, to new gods that came newly up,
whom your fathers feared not.
- Deuteronomy 32:20 And He said, ***I will hide my face from them...***

Revelation 2:14 <u>Problem</u>	But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the <u>doctrine of Balaam</u> , who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel , to <u>eat things sacrificed unto idols</u> , and to <u>commit fornication</u> .
Revelation 2:15	So hast thou also them that hold the <u>doctrine of the Nicolaitans</u> , which thing I hate .
Jude 1:11	Woe unto them! for they have gone in the way of Cain, and ran greedily after the error of Balaam for reward , and perished in the gainsaying of Core.
Numbers 22:7	And the elders of Moab and the elders of Midian departed with the rewards of divination in their hand ; and they came unto Balaam , and spake unto him the words of Balak .
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Revelation 2:14 <u>Problem</u>	But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the <u>doctrine of Balaam</u> , who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel , to <u>eat things sacrificed unto idols</u> , and to <u>commit fornication</u> .
Revelation 2:15	So hast thou also them that hold the <u>doctrine of the Nicolaitans</u> , which thing I hate .
Numbers 25:1	And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab .
Numbers 25:2	And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods : and the people did eat , and <u>bowed down to their gods</u> .

- Revelation 2:14
Problem But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the **doctrine of Balaam**, who **taught Balak** to cast a **stumbling block before the children of Israel**, to **eat things sacrificed unto idols**, and to **commit fornication**.
- Revelation 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the **doctrine of the Nicolaitans**, which thing I hate.
- Ephesians 5:23 For the **husband is the head of the wife**, even as **Christ is the head of the church**: and he is the **saviour of the body**.
- James 4:4 Ye **adulterers and adulteresses**, know ye not that the **friendship of the world is enmity with God**? whosoever therefore will be a **friend of the world is the enemy of God**.
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- Revelation 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the **doctrine of the Nicolaitans**, which thing I hate.
- Numbers 31:15 And Moses said unto them, Have ye saved all **the women** alive?
- Numbers 31:16 Behold, **these caused the children of Israel**, through the **counsel of Balaam**, to **commit trespass against the LORD** in the matter of Peor, ***and there was a plague among the congregation of the LORD***

Revelation 2:14
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Numbers 25:9 And those that *died in the plague* were *twenty and four thousand*.

Acts 15:29 That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from **blood**, and from **things strangled**, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.

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Revelation 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.

2 Peter 2:14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling **unstable souls**: an **heart** they have **exercised with covetous practices**; **cursed children**:

2 Peter 2:15 Which have **forsaken the right way**, and are **gone astray**, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness.

Revelation 2:16 **Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,**
Counsel and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.

John 12:48 He that **rejecteth Me**, and **receiveth not My words**,
hath one that judgeth him: the **word that I have spoken**,
the same **shall judge him in the last day**.

Revelation 19:15 And **out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword**,
that with it He should **smite the nations**:
and He shall rule them with a rod of iron:
and He treadeth the winepress of the
fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

Revelation 2:16 **Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,**
Counsel and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.

Numbers 25:4 And the LORD said unto Moses,
Take all the **heads of the people**, and
hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the
fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.

Numbers 25:5 And Moses said unto the judges of Israel,
Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor.

Numbers 25:6 And, behold, **one of the children of Israel** came
and **brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the**
sight of Moses, and **in the sight of all the congregation**
of the children of Israel, who were **weeping**
before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

Revelation 2:16
Counsel

Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,
and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.

Joel 2:17

Let the **priests**, the **ministers** of the LORD,
weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say,
Spare Thy people, O LORD...

Joel 2:13

And **rend your heart**, and not your garments,
and **turn unto the LORD your God**: for He is
gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness,
and **repenteth Him of the evil**.

Joel 2:11

And the LORD shall utter His voice before **His army**:
for **His camp is very great**:
for **He is strong that executeth His word**:
for the ***day of the LORD is great and very terrible***;
and ***who can abide it?***

Revelation 2:16
Counsel

Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,
and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.

Numbers 25:7

And when **Phinehas**, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the
priest, **saw it**, he **rose up from among the congregation**,
and **took a javelin in his hand**;

Numbers 25:8

And he **went after the man** of Israel into the tent,
and **thrust both of them through**, the **man of Israel**,
and the **woman through her belly**.
So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.

- Revelation 2:16
Counsel **Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,**
and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.
- Numbers 25:14 Now the **name** of the Israelite that was slain,
even that was slain with the Midianitish woman,
was Zimri, *the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house*
among the Simeonites.
- Numbers 25:15 And the **name** of the Midianitish woman that was slain
was Cozbi, *the daughter of Zur*;
he was **head over a people**, and ***of a chief house*** in Midian.
- Zimri** H2174 musical music **Salu** H5543 weighed [judged]
- Cozbi** H3579 false **Zur** H6698 rock
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- Revelation 2:16
Counsel **Repent; or else *I will come unto thee quickly*,**
and will **fight against them** with the **sword of my mouth**.
- Genesis 6:2 That the ***sons of God saw the daughters of men*** that they
were fair; ***and they took them wives*** of all which they chose.
- Genesis 6:3 And the LORD said,
My spirit shall not always strive with man...
- Genesis 6:5 And **GOD saw that the wickedness of man**
was great in the earth, and that **every imagination**
of the **thoughts of his heart** was **only evil continually**.

Revelation 2:17

Closing
and
Promise

He that hath an ear, let him hear
what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that
overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna,
and will **give him a white stone,**
and **in the stone a new name written,**
which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Leviticus 13:13

Then the priest shall consider: and, behold,
if the **leprosy** have covered all his flesh,
he shall ***pronounce him clean* that hath the plague:**
it is all **turned white: he is clean.**

Ancient Greeks used black or white stones to vote in the trials - term “black balled”
Christ is the judge of His people - white stone shows the verdict for the faithful

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which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

Isaiah 65:15

And ye shall leave ***your name*** for ***a curse*** unto My chosen:
for the Lord **GOD shall slay thee,**
and **call His servants by another name**

Genesis 35:10

And God said unto him, ***Thy name is Jacob*:**
thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but
Israel shall be thy name: and **He called his name Israel.**

Isaiah 62:2

And the **Gentiles shall see thy righteousness,**
and all kings **thy glory:** and thou shalt be **called**
by a new name, which the mouth of the **LORD shall name.**