

III. PERGAMUM: COMPROMISE

Revelation 2:12-17

I. Church: PERGAMUM (v12)

II. Characteristics of Speaker (v12):

Speaks in judgment (sword) (cf. 1:16; 19:15, 21)

Cf. II Thess 2:8: a word from Him is like a nuclear arsenal!

III. Commendations & Encouragement (v13):

You live in a **difficult** place, where Satan has his throne There were several pagan cults, capped off by emperor worship in Pergamum: such worship was actually worship of demons: Dt 32:16-7; Psm 106:37-8; I Cor 10:20; **Rev 9:20**)

Satan *seemed* more powerful

Christianity seemed **implausible** (cf. today's secularism)

but you have been **true** to Me:

A. You are true to My Name: essentials of who I am

B. You have not renounced faith in Me: you trust Me alone for salvation

even at the **cost** of life: brave Antipas (= "Against All")

IV. Criticisms (14-15):

Little compromises of "nonessential" truths:

A. Balaam's seduction (Num 22-25; 31:8, 16)

1. Idolatry
2. Immorality

B. Nicolaitan heresy

V. Counsel/Commands (v16):

Repent! See it as wrong and refuse to rationalize & compromise

VI. Consequences (v16):

A. If NOT: fight against you in irresistible judgment & discipline

B. To Overcomers:

1. Hidden Manna: feasting on _____ in heaven

2. White stone with new secret name: your own unique intimacy with Jesus in heaven (deeper knowledge of _____ Name?)

Incline rather to think it refers to the New Name _____ will be given by Jesus when your unique personality is glorified and transformed! Eg Jacob → Israel.

Only you will fathom the significance of that Name!

VII. Call to Heed (v17a):

1. Where do you compromise your purity?

What you DO

What you watch: TV? Movies?

What you fantasize? What fantasies you feed?

E53 (Eph 5:3) ministry: should you be there?

Why the Church (incl CPC) must practice discipline of unrepented sexual compromises in behavior. Either we discipline or Jesus does! (2:16)

2. Fantasize rather the glorious intimacy you will have with Jesus on That Day.

Live in a way now that cultivates that passion.

Matt 5:8 has its profound first fruits here and now.