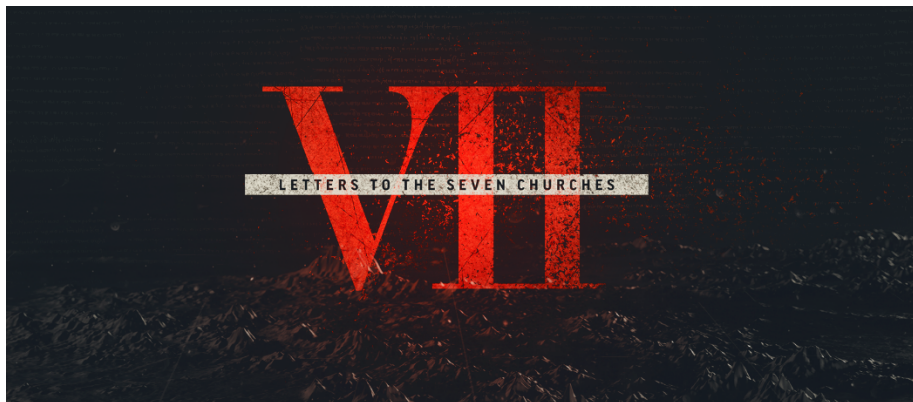




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The Church in Pergamum

Revelation 1

- Jesus is present with His church.

PERGAMUM

The Message to the Church in Pergamum

¹² "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Pergamum. This is the message from the one with the sharp two-edged sword: ¹³ "I know that you live in the city where Satan has his throne, yet you have remained loyal to me. You refused to deny me even when Antipas, my faithful witness, was martyred among you there in Satan's city. ¹⁴ "But I have a few complaints against you. You tolerate some among you whose teaching is like that of Balaam, who showed Balak how to trip up the people of Israel. He taught them to sin by eating food offered to idols and by committing sexual sin. ¹⁵ In a similar way, you have some Nicolaitans among you who follow the same teaching. ¹⁶ Repent of your sin, or I will come to you suddenly and fight against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷ "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give some of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it." **Revelation 2:12-17 NLT**

¹² "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Pergamum. This is the message from the one with the sharp two-edged sword:" **Revelation 2:12 NLT**

- The Sword represents the Word of God.
- Two things last forever, the Word of God and the souls of men.

¹² For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden

from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable. **Hebrews 4:12-13 NLT**

JESUS KNOWS IF YOU'VE BEEN FAITHFUL

¹³ "I know that you live in the city where Satan has his throne, yet you have remained loyal to me. You refused to deny me even when Antipas, my faithful witness, was martyred among you there in Satan's city." **Revelation 2:13 NLT**

- Last week we heard be faithful even unto death and here we see that walked out.
- Pergamum was a spiritually hostile place to follow Jesus.
- He doesn't say: "Get out of Pergamum."
- Instead, He calls them to: Be faithful in Pergamum.

¹⁴ "But I have a few complaints against you. You tolerate some among you whose teaching is like that of Balaam, who showed Balak how to trip up the people of Israel. He taught them to sin by eating food offered to idols and by committing sexual sin. ¹⁵ In a similar way, you have some Nicolaitans among you who follow the same teaching. ¹⁶ Repent of your sin, or I will come to you suddenly and fight against them with the sword of my mouth." **Revelation 2:14-16 NLT**

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU TOLERATE

- The church loses its influence when it adopts the world's values.
- We live in a culture where biblical convictions are increasingly challenged.
- Jesus has not called us to hide from the world.
- He has called us to be faithful in the middle of it.
- Persecution attacks your confession.
- Compromise attacks your convictions.

THE CHURCH MUST NEVER CHANGE THE TRUTH TO FIT THE CULTURE.

- The Gospel cannot change.
- The Word of God cannot change.
- The identity of Jesus cannot change.
- God's standard of holiness cannot change.

JESUS IS CALLING

¹⁷ "Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give some of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it." **Revelation 2:17 NLT**

- Jesus offers those who repent a new life, a new heart, and a new name.