

**The Revelation of**  
**Yeshua The Messiah To Yochanan (John)**

**Study Notes**

**Pergamum PT. 2**

**Revelation 2:12-17-(NASB)-** “<sup>12</sup> And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this: <sup>13</sup> ‘I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is; and you hold firmly to 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. <sup>14</sup> But I have a few things against you, because you have *some* there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a <sup>[a]</sup>stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality. <sup>15</sup> So you too, have some who in the same way hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. <sup>16</sup> Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will wage war against them with the sword of My mouth. <sup>17</sup> The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes, 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 except the one who receives *it*. ’

**Part 2:**

**Review:**

**Note:** Remember as we move into the actual letter Yeshua/Jesus is going to point out things about Himself.

**Revelation 2: 12 (NASB) -** “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: ‘The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:’”

- **Proconsul-**This was the Governor of Asia. He ruled over all of Asia including the churches. His throne was in Pergamum. If he held the sword up the person lived but if he put the sword down, they died.

**Note:** Jesus had to introduce Himself to this church right away establishing Himself as the ultimate authority knowing the earthly rulership Pergamum lived under at that time.

## Constantine: The First Christian Emperor

**Note:** His conversion played a huge role in easing the persecution of the Christians in Pergamum, but it also created an opportunity for the lines to be blurred. If they didn't cause a stir, they could participate in government, they could have position in their community.



**Key:** Unfortunately, the freedom from extreme persecution allows for compromise to enter. It was for this reason that Jesus highlights a Believer that refused to bow his knee or let go of his grip of faith!

- The pressure to compromise for Believers was greater because this is not just the Seat of Satan, but it is also the seat of government.
- The Roman government developed the model of a man that stood between humanity and God.
- A Bishop/Priest now stood in the Church between God and man.

**Revelation 2:13 (NASB)** - “I know where you dwell, **where Satan’s throne is**; and you hold firmly to 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.**”

**“MY Faith”:** The faith that Believers have is not ours!

**Romans 1:20 (NASB)** – “For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes, that is*, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

**Romans 12:3 (NASB)** – “For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.”

**“MY Witness, MY Faithful One”:**

**Antipas-(Greek)-** “Like A Father”; *Anti=against, Pas=everything.*

**Note:** Researchers state that when Antipas went before the governor in Pergamum that he was offered the chance to compromise like everyone else. When he didn’t, he was given the name “Antipas”, which is not his real name. It was his Martry’s name.

**The Brazen Calf**



In ancient Rome, one of their various forms of torture was the Brazen Calf: a device made of brass in the shape of a calf. Antipas was placed in the calf, which was placed over a burning fire. The calf was also fitted with pipes in its head so that his cries rang out from this inside as music while he was being cooked alive. This was done publicly as a deterrent to those who would defy the government.

## **The Rebuke:**

**Revelation 2:14 (NASB)** – “But I have a few things against you, because you have *some* there 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 sexual immorality.”

## **Teachings of Balaam:**

*(Remember: Jesus commended Ephesus for not giving in to this teaching.)*

**Doctrine of Baalam-(Numbers Chapters 22-24)** - the teaching or doctrine of Balaam is the view that Christians *can* or even *should* compromise their convictions for the sake of:

- Popularity.
- Money.
- Sexual gratification.
- Personal gain.

**Key:** This is the attitude that treats sin as “no big deal”; the attitude that Christians can’t and shouldn’t totally shun the presence of sinners or unbelievers.

**Balak-King of Moab:** He had one desire, and that was to destroy the children of Israel.

**Note:** Balak could not defeat them, so he put two stumbling blocks before them:

- Food - Food offered up to idols.
- Women - Moabite women: extremely beautiful and greatly adorned compared to the modest Israelite women.

**Key:** Obesity & Divorce is evidence of this in the modern-day church.

## **In the Kingdom: Burnt Offerings - Read Leviticus 1-Instructions for Burnt offerings. (Rev. 14)**

**Key:** The biggest difference between the burnt offering and other offerings is that to make a burnt offering the entire animal was burned on the altar, symbolizing

total commitment or surrender to God. Eating meat offered to a false god was sign that one wasn't totally committed to the True and Living God!

- **Romans 12:1 (NASB)** – “<sup>1</sup> Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.”
  - **Our bodies are the temple of the Most High God. We must steward it accordingly. God had specific instructions on what should go into the temple. He still has them.**

**Revelation 2:15 (KJV)** – “So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, **which thing I hate.**”

#### **Nicolaism/Nicolationism:**

- A belief in compromise.
- A lowering of the standards of the Word of God.
- A blending of beliefs.
- Producing a gospel that changes to fit into the moral decline of the world around it.

#### **Warning of Compromising The Gospel**

**Galatians 1:8-9 (AMP)** – “<sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to that which we [originally] preached to you, let him be condemned to destruction! <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so I now say again, if anyone is preaching to you a gospel different from that which you received [from us], let him be condemned to destruction!”

**Key:** Remember the commendation in **Rev. 2:13**-... “*My name*”.

**Revelation 2:16**-Therefore repent; or else I am coming **to you** quickly, and I will wage **war against them** with the sword of My mouth.

**“I’m coming quickly to you!” - This Becomes Personal.**

**Key:** Yeshua is not impressed by those who use His name only!

**Psalm 138:1-2 (KJV)** – “<sup>1</sup> I will praise thee **with my whole heart**: before the gods will I sing praise unto thee. <sup>2</sup> I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.”

**Question:** Who is the “**YOU**” in Rev. 2:16?

**Answer:** Those who pervert the Gospel of Jesus Christ to participate in the world and culture around them.

**Question:** What is the Gospel?

**Answer:** The word *gospel* comes from the Old English *god* meaning "good" and *spel* meaning "news, a story." In Christianity, the term "good news" refers to the story of Jesus Christ's birth, death, and resurrection.

**Note:** If you aren't talking about His birth, death, resurrection, and the benefits of the cross, you're not preaching the Gospel! A lot of gods died, but **ONLY ONE** resurrected!



**Revelation 2:17 (NASB)** – “The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who overcomes, 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 except the one who receives *it*.”

**Note:** Not everyone will hear, as not everyone will be able to endure sound doctrine in the last days. This is addressed to the one who **can hear**.

**Overcome-(Greek)-nikao**-to carry off the victory, those who remain in the faith, maintain one's cause.

- It is **not** a striving. The grace of God has made it possible that we are no longer a slave to sin. We are no longer cursed because of the cross and now have access. **JUST BE!**

### **Hidden Manna - Supernatural Preservation**



**Exodus 16:33 (NASB)** – “And Moses said to Aaron, ‘Take a jar and put a full omer of manna in it, and place it before the LORD to be kept safe throughout your generations.’”

**Note:** God is telling the church that if they remained faithful to him, He will preserve them like He did the children of Israel in the wilderness!

**Hebrews 9:4 (NASB)** – “having a golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden jar holding the manna, Aaron's staff which budded, and the tablets of the covenant;”

**Note:** God is saying we are in covenant relationship with Him. How can we eat meat offered up to other gods? It's spiritual adultery!

### **White Stone**



**Key:** Many different interpretations are given in references to the white stone with a new name. Many theologians favor this interpretation:

- It speaks to a favorable vote.
- Freedom from a life of sin/guilty verdict.

**He will put YOUR new name on it! Its personal, for He is a personal Jesus!**

### **The New Name - Speaks to elevation into a new position.**

**Isaiah 62:1-2 (NASB)** - “<sup>1</sup> For Zion’s sake I will not keep silent,  
And for Jerusalem’s sake I will not keep quiet,  
Until her righteousness goes forth like brightness,  
And her salvation like a torch that is burning.

<sup>2</sup> The nations will see your righteousness,  
And all kings your glory;  
And you will be called by a new name  
Which the mouth of the LORD will designate.”

## Jesus gets the same promise!



**Revelation 19:11-12 (NASB)** – “<sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it *is* called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. <sup>12</sup> His eyes *are* a flame of fire, and on His head *are* many crowns; and He has a name written *on Him* which no one knows except Himself.”

*When you get to Heaven, you will not be called by the name you have now. When you get there, God is going to speak a name you will be known by because you have been elevated to royalty to in the Kingdom of God because you overcame by the word of the lamb and the word of our testimony! (Rev. 11:16) Hold fast to your faith! Do not compromise!*

**Pray your name will change!**

**The End**