

“What Does Jesus Want to Say to Our Church? Pergamum: The Compromising Church”

Sunday, October 26, 2025, 10:30 a.m.

Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI

Pastor Jonathan DeCou

Revelation 2:12-17

BIG IDEA: Erosion is a slow and dangerous process.

*“You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam...
[and] to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.”*

Revelation 2:14, 15 (CSB)

The Commission. (v12a)

The Character. (v12b)

- Jesus Christ wields the powerful Word of Truth.
- Jesus Christ wields the authoritative Word of Truth.

The Commendation. (v13)

- They lived in a tough neighborhood.
- They were loyal to Jesus Christ.

The Condemnation. (v14-15)

- They tolerated the teaching of Balaam.
- They tolerated the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

The Command. (v16)

- Repent.
- Heed the Word of Christ.

The Call. (v17a)

- A letter to one church.
- A message for all.

The Challenge. (v17b)

- The faithful Conqueror is spiritually nourished.
- The faithful Conqueror is justified.
- The faithful Conqueror is transformed.

BIG IDEA: Erosion is a slow and dangerous process.

Read: Revelation 2:12-17

Think: Consider Jesus’ message to this church, and then ask yourself the following questions: *What pressures are the Christians in Pergamum facing? At what point are they strong? Where are they tempted? Which do you think is easier to endure: Persecution by enemies or seduction by the culture? Why? Why is the title by which Christ reveals Himself so appropriate to these Christians? What is the significance of the sword (v 16)? Of the manna and the stone and the new name (v 17)?*

Do: Identify the cultural influences that distract you from the Lord Jesus. How subtle are these influences in your life? How direct? What weapons has God given you with which to do spiritual battle? Which has proved to be helpful?