

THE STATE OF THE CHURCH

The Church at Pergamos (Pergamum) - Part I

Reference: **Revelation 2:12-17**

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ONE...the church at **Ephesus** “**The Loveless Church**”

Reference: **Revelation 2:1-7**

TWO...the church at **Smyrna** “**The Persecuted Church**”

Reference: **Revelation 2:8-11**

Revelation chapters two and three consist of seven separate messages to seven different congregations in the first century Asia Minor. Remember each of the messages consist of four basic components: a **commendation**, a **condemnation**, some **counsel** and a **challenge**.

verse twelve (see screen)

This sharp sword with two edges corresponds to **Revelation 1:16** (see screen)

That double edged sword represents the _____ of _____.

The Word of God exists in two basic forms: the Word of God in **human form** and the Word of God in **written** or **printed form**.

- The Word of God in human form is _____
_____.

Reference: **John 1:1-2, 14** (see screen)

- The Word of God in written or printed form is _____
_____.

Reference: **Hebrews 4:12** (see screen)

THE COMMENDATION:

The commendation is in three different parts:

Part One is that this church was faithful to Christ in spite of their geographical _____.
verse thirteen (see screen)

There are four possibilities as to the reason Pergamos (Pergamum) was a Satanic area:

- There was a temple there dedicated to a pagan deity called _____ (god of wine).
- There was a temple there dedicated to a pagan deity named _____ (god of medicine).

- There was an altar there dedicated to a pagan deity called _____.
- Pergamos was another center of _____
_____.

Part Two is that this church refused to deny the essential _____ of Jesus Christ.

verse thirteen (see screen)

Part Three is the Christians at Pergamos (Pergamum) refused to renounce the Christian _____.

verse thirteen continued (see screen)

THE CONDEMNATION:

The basic problem was that this church tolerated _____
_____.

There were two particular false teachings the congregation at Pergamos (Pergamum) tolerated:

- the doctrine of _____
verse fourteen

- the doctrine of the **Nicolaitans**
verse fifteen (see screen)

(see also The State of the Church: The Church at Ephesus Part 1) <https://vimeo.com/439655562>)

The doctrine of **Balaam**:

verse fourteen (see screen)

The account of Balaam is found in **Numbers chapters 22-25**

Balaam convinced Balak to entice the Israelites to commit sin:

- The first thing the Hebrews did wrong was that they ate food that had been offered to _____ (non-kosher foods).
- The second thing the Jewish people did wrong was that they committed _____ (all immoral sexual practice).
Reference: **Numbers 25:1-3** (see screen)

Definition: The **doctrine of Balaam** is the teaching that the end _____ the means.