

Revelation Study
To The Church At Smyrna
Revelation 2:12-17

- I. Jesus: The Sharp, Two-Edged Sword (12)
 - A. Picture of judgment
 - B. Both for the nations, and for the wayward churches
 - C. A sword, from His mouth, carries with it the judgment is based on the Word
 - D. Isaiah 11:4; 49:2
- II. Encouragement And Exhortation (13-16)
 - A. Encouragement - Have not denied Jesus, even in the most trying of circumstances
 - 1. Throne of Satan – Pergamum first city to build a temple to a Roman ruler (Augustus)
 - 2. People held to the testimony of Jesus unto death (Antipas)
 - B. Exhortation 1 – Hold the teachings of Balaam
 - 1. The opposite problem of Ephesus
 - 2. Rather than disconnecting from interacting with the world of doctrinal purity, Pergamum incorporated some of the pagan/cultural perspective
 - 3. It became too friendly with the world, often for financial gain
 - C. Exhortation 2 – Hold the teachings of the Nicolaitans
 - 1. Similar to the previous indictment
 - 2. These false teachers were leading the congregation to find certain acts of immorality acceptable

- D. A call to repent, or war will be made “by the sword of My mouth” (similar to the threat made against Balaam)
- III. To Him Who Overcomes (17)
 - A. Hidden manna
 - 1. Contrast with “things sacrificed to idols”
 - 2. Jesus is the manna (John 6:31-35)
 - B. White Stone
 - 1. Not guilty, in ancient Jewish literature
 - 2. Appearance of the manna (Exodus 16:31; Numbers 11:7)
 - C. New Name
 - 1. Common theme in Scripture
 - 2. Jacob to Israel; Abram to Abraham; Saul to Paul...
 - 3. Picture of transformation
- IV. He Who Has Ears To Hear (17)
 - A. Spiritual Insight
 - B. Will we be oriented toward the things of Jesus or of ourselves?