

Revelation 2:12-17

So what does the word compromise mean?

- An agreement or a settlement of a dispute that is reached by each side making concessions
 - an ability to listen to two sides in a dispute, and devise a compromise acceptable to both
Oxford English Dictionary
1. These letters are addressed to local, visible churches that did exist in the first century.
 2. These letters are addressed to all churches at all times as tests by which they may discern their true spiritual condition in the sight of God.
 3. These letters are addressed to each of us personally in the saying: "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says....." and also in the promises: "to him who overcomes I will give....."
 4. These letters are also prophetic, as they reveal seven periods of church history that began around AD 90 and will last until the end of the church age.
 - Ephesus reveals the state of the church when John wrote the book of Revelation.
 - Smyrna reveals the period of church when the Roman persecution was very severe. A.D. 100-312
 - Pergamos reveals the church period from A.D. 312-606. It is the time period when the church compromised with the world.
 - Thyatira covers the period from A.D. 606-1520 which we know as the spiritual dark age where idolatry and pagan doctrines ruled the visible church.
 - Sardis is revealing the period from A.D. 1520-1750 during which the Protestant Reformation took place, yet the works were not "fulfilled"
 - Philadelphia is the period from A.D. 1750-1900. A church period where the clear testimony of the Word of God and the Name of Jesus Christ is being proclaimed.
 - Laodicea, the last church mentioned in the book of Revelation, represents the period from A.D. 1900 to the present. It is a church that is satisfied with where they are, affluent and in need of nothing.

"...myrrh has to be crushed in order to give out its fragrance – and so, the true church was crushed beneath the iron heel of pagan Rome, yet it never gave out so sweet a fragrance to God as in those two centuries of almost constant martyrdom. The period of Smyrna is identifiable by the major persecutions of the church under 10 different Roman Emperors." Dr. H.A. Ironside

1. Historically, Pergamos is SATAN'S DWELLING PLACE

Revelation 2:12-13; Hebrews 4:12

- Athenos, the goddess of wisdom and arts.
- Zeus was the supreme god in Ancient Greece, the father of the Olympian gods and the ruler of mankind. He was the son of Cronus and the grandson of Gaia (mother earth).
- Asklepios was the god of healing and medicine

There were also 3 temples dedicated to the ROMAN EMPEROR. Emperor worship was widespread in Pergamos.

“They would take the victim, place him inside the bull, and they would tie him in such a way that his head would go into the head of the bull. Then they would light a huge fire under the bull, and as the fire heated the bronze, the person inside the bull would slowly begin to roast to death. As the victim would begin to moan and to cry out in pain, his cries would echo through the pipes in the head of the bull so it seemed to make the bull come alive.”

2. Spiritually, Pergamos means “MARRIAGE AND ELEVATION”

Revelation 2:14-17; Numbers 25:1-9; 1 Corinthians 10:19-22

3. Prophetically, OVERCOMERS WILL RECEIVE BLESSINGS FROM HIM

Revelation 2:17

Blessing One: I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. **John 6:48-51**

Blessing Two: I will give him a white stone

Blessing Three: A New Name written which no one knows except him who receives it.