

Series: Evaluating the Health of Your Heart

Message Title: *Pergamum—Church That Ignored Error or Sin*

Primary Texts: Revelation 2:12-17

Date: July 26, 2020

1. Root _____.

2. Dangers _____.

3. Repentance _____.

Revelation 2:12-17

¹ “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this: ² ‘I know where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is; and you hold fast 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. ¹⁴ But I have a few things against you, because you have there some 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 *acts of* immorality. ¹⁵ So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶ Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth. ¹⁷ ‘ He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him 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 but he who receives it.”

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Read **Revelation 2:12-13**. Who wrote this message to the church in Pergamum? What danger is mentioned in verse 13? What two praises were given to this church? What does “hold fast My name” and “not deny My name” reveal?
2. Read **Revelation 2:14**. What problem does this verse reveal existed in the church in Pergamum? Read **Numbers 25:1-3; 31:15-16**. Exactly what is the “stumbling block” that Revelation 2:14 refers to? Read **1 Kings 11:1-10**. What can happen when a believer and an unbeliever marry? What does it mean that Christians should do today?
3. Read **Revelation 2:14-15**. What did the Nicolaitans teach? How does “in the same way” in verse 15 help us understand the error of the Nicolaitans? Historical records suggest the Nicolaitans promoted great sexual freedom in connection with idol worship. Read **1 Peter 4:2-4**. What reason does this verse suggest may have motivated these believers to sin? Read **1 Corinthians 6:18-19**. What does this verse reveal may have also motivated them to sin? Read **Matthew 5:28**. Is pornography a sin too?
4. Read **Revelation 2:16** and **1 John 1:9**. What steps did Jesus give these believers to stop committing these sins? What warning did He give them? Read **Hebrews 12:4-11**. What would happen to them if they continued sinning?
5. Why should we repent according to **1 John 5:2-3** and **Revelation 2:4**? After we repent, what should a Christian do? Read **Galatians 5:16-23**. How does the fruit of the Spirit in verses 22-23 grow? How does self-control grow in a believer’s life? Read **Philippians 4:8** and **2 Timothy 2:22**. How can obeying these commands be helpful in avoiding sexual sins? Read **Revelation 2:17**. What does God promise to believers in this verse? If you are committing sexual sins, will you repent and return to your first love — to Jesus?

