

**Series "Jesus Unveiled"**  
**"The Worldly Church"**  
**Revelation 2:12-17**  
**Part-6**

**"Worldliness"** – "is a preoccupation with or interest in the temporal system of life that places anything perishable before that which is eternal."

**"Revelation"** – to unveil – to uncover – to see Jesus Christ and His plan for eternity.

**Key Verse Of Revelation: Revelation 1:19** – the book has 3 parts:

1. **Things which you have seen** – Rev. 1: Vision of the coming of Jesus
2. **The things which are** – Rev. 2-3: 7 Churches
3. **The Things which shall take place after these things** – Rev. 4-22

**Thought Of Our Passage:** Jesus Stands In Opposition To Worldliness As The Sharp Two-Edged Sword, The Ultimate And Final Authority.

**1. Verses 12 – Author**

**2. Verse 13 – Approval**

**3. Verses 14-15 – Accusation**

**4. Verses 16-17 – Admonition**

**1. Verses 12 – Author:**

Revelation 2:12 – "And to the angel" – Angolos – Messenger – Minister;  
Revelation 1:20 – Pastor of the church.

"Pergamum" – Per – means "opposition"; gamos – means "marriage";  
means "Objectionable Marriage".

(Map) Pergamum The City – today called "Bergama"; 100 miles north of Ephesus, 60 miles north of Smyrna, 15 miles from the sea.

Called "Foremost City of Asia Minor".

Pergamum, A Center for Emperor Worship – Temple made for Augustus Caesar.

~ Temple of Athena – Altar of Zeus.

Temple of the god Asclepius (the savior), whose emblem was the serpent on a staff; Genesis 3 – Satan.

"The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this" – This is none other than Jesus Christ Himself. Revelation 1:16

"two-edged sword" – symbol of the Word of God, assurance, authority of judgment on the basis of absolute truth. First Negative introduction of Jesus.

Hebrews 4:12

Revelation 19:15

Church History– 313-606 AD, The Church Married To The World.

Constantine: Was a ruler in Rome. He succeeded over 2 other rulers and became Emperor – the sole Ruler. 306-337 AD

Constantine wanted a unified kingdom:

- ~ 311: Edict – permitting limited toleration for Christians.
- ~ 313: Had victory by battle – proclaimed his conversion.

Issued Edict of Milan – 313 AD, that put a stop to 250 years of persecution.

Nicene Creed – 325 AD, Trinity proclaimed, the deity/humanity of Jesus Christ.

1 John 2:15

## **2. Verse 13 – Approval:**

Revelation 2:13

"I know" – This is said 7X – each time to the 7 churches; God knows all about you this morning – your condition.

(K.J.V.) "your works" – Jesus saw their works; "and where you dwell" – "Permanent resident".

"where Satan's throne is" – "a seat of special authority, seat of judge or king". Pagan Pergamum's worship either of the Roman emperor, or Greek gods in the temple of Zeus, the god of healing.

**Hell is not Satan's throne. Revelation 12:7-10**

John 16:11 – Ruler of this world.  
2 Corinthians 4:4 – god of this world.  
Ephesians 2:2 – Prince of the power of the air.  
1 John 5:19 – lies in the power of the evil one.

Loyal To Their Conviction Of God: “you hold fast my name” – Firm conviction – Jesus is Lord – Master – Messiah.

Loyal To The Practice Of Faith: “did not deny My faith” – This takes us a step further, personally exercising your faith in Jesus Christ.

1 John 2:3-6

“even in the days of Antipas” – means “likeness of his father”.

“My witness” – the word means – “martyr”.

“My faithful one” – Jesus gave him his own title, Revelation 1:5.

### **3. Verses 14-15 – Accusation:**

Revelation 2:14

“who hold the teaching of Balaam.” – (Numbers 22-25)

“Balaam” – a gentile prophet, he was a man with a grasp on truth, knowledge of God’s character.

Balaam Taught Worldliness; Every man has his price – “who kept teaching Balak”

Balaam Taught How To Use God’s Holiness For Evil Ends – “to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel,” – Numbers 25; 31:16.

Balaam Taught The Worship Of The World – “to eat things sacrificed to idols,” – (24,000 died in judgment)

Acts 15:29

“and to commit acts of immorality.” – 1 Peter 4:3-4

2 Peter 2:15-16

Revelation 2:15

“Hold” – “To grasp, or grip”

“the teaching of the Nicolaitans” – Revelation 2:6

Nikao – To Conquer; laos – people = or Clergy over laity.

#### **4. Verses 16-17 – Admonition:**

Revelation 2:16

“Repent” – God’s remedy for sin – Change of mind – produces change of attitude.

John 12:47-48

“make war against them with the sword of my mouth.” –  
Revelation 1:16

Balaam killed with the sword, Numbers 31:8.

John 12:48

Revelation 2:17

#### **Jesus gives 3 promises to the overcomer:**

- 1. Promise** – “To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna” – (forsaking idols and sacrifices) The manna was hidden in the Ark of the covenant, Exodus 16:32-34; Hebrews 9:4.
- 2. Promise** – “I will give him a white stone”
- 3. Promise** – “And a new (different) name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.” – Revelation 3:12 – The self-revelation of Jesus.

#### **Application:**

1. Love For The Truth – We Must Love Truth And Let It Be The Final Authority In Our Lives.
2. Desire For Holiness – In Order To Win A Lost World, It Can’t Be Done Through Worldliness. Without Integrity, The World Won’t Listen To Us.
3. Willingness To Repent – Jesus Called The Church Caught Up In Compromise To Repent.