

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT PERGAMOS

SCRIPTURE: REVELATION 2:12-17

INTRODUCTION

THE CHURCH AT PERGAMOS WAS CHARACTERIZED BY TWO THINGS: IT TENACIOUSLY CLUNG TO THE NAME OF JESUS) WHILE AT THE SAME TIME PERMISSIVELY ALLOWING SINFUL PRACTICES IN ITS MIDST.

I. ITS TENACITY IN THE FAITH

1 TIMOTHY 6:12 FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH, LAY HOLD ON ETERNAL LIFE.

2 PETER 1:10 WHEREFORE THE RATHER, BRETHREN, GIVE DILIGENCE TO MAKE YOUR CALLING AND ELECTION SURE: FOR IF YOU DO THESE THINGS, YOU SHALL NEVER FALL.

REVELATION 3:11 BEHOLD, I COME QUICKLY: HOLD THAT FAST WHICH THOU HAST, THAT NO MAN TAKE THY CROWN.

- A. AN UNSHAKEABLE FOUNDATION IN THE WORD
MINISTRY GIFTS OF EPHESIANS 4:11-15
- B. "BULLDOG" TENACITY IN CLINGING TO JESUS

II. ITS PERMISSIVE ATTITUDE

EZEKIEL 3:20 WHEN THE RIGHTEOUS MAN DOETH TURN FROM HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND COMMIT INIQUITY, AND I LAY A STUMBLINGBLOCK BEFORE HIM, HE SHALL DIE IN HIS SIN, AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH HE HATH DONE SHALL NOT BE REMEMBERED; BUT HIS BLOOD WILL I REQUIRE AT THINE HAND.

- A. THE MORAL RELATIVITY OF THE "CHRISTIAN" LIBERTINES
 - 1. GOD'S WORD IS A BOOK OF ABSOLUTES
 - 2. MAN'S MAKEUP DEMANDS ABSOLUTES
- B. THE CHURCH'S REQUIRED ATTITUDE TOWARD EVIL
 - 1. CANNOT BE PASSIVE

- 2. MUST ALIGN WITH GOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD EVIL

III. ITS ERRANCY PROMISED DISCIPLINE

REVELATION 2:16 REPENT OR ELSE I WILL COME UNTO THEE QUICKLY, AND WILL FIGHT AGAINST THEM WITH THE SWORD OF MY MOUTH.

- A. GOD'S ATTITUDE AGAINST EVIL IS UNCHANGED
- B. GOD IS GOING TO PUNISH EVIL

CONCLUSION

EZEKIEL 3:17 SON OF MAN, I HAVE MADE THE A WATCHMAN UNTO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL: THEREFORE HEAR THE WORD AT MY MOUTH, AND GIVE THEM WARNING FROM ME.