

Revelation 2:12-17 The Hidden Battle

10/12/25 Calvary Chapel Titusville

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*"And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write, 'These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword: (Revelation 2:12 NKJV)*

Jesus says power comes from what proceeds from His mouth.

*And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; (Ephesians 6:17 NKJV)*

Hebrews intensifies the point:

*For the word of God [is] living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12 NKJV)*

His Word is the plumb line that reveals where our lives, our loves, and our churches have drifted off center.

*"I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan's throne [is]. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas [was] My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. (Revelation 2:13 NKJV)*

Two comforting words show up in every one of these letters: "I know." Jesus knows.

Persecution has always been normal for the church.

*"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." (John 16:33 NKJV)*

***The Greatest Danger to the Church: Compromise.***

*Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (James 4:4 NKJV)*

***Spiritual adultery is when the bride of Christ crawls into bed with the culture's idols.***

*"But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit sexual immorality. (Revelation 2:14 NKJV)*

The heart's liturgy is formed by repetition; small compromises calcify into a lifestyle.

***Grace is not God lowering the bar; grace is God raising the dead.***

*"Thus you also have those who hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. (Revelation 2:15 NKJV)*

He bled to purchase a bride and He wants her whole.

Shepherds chase off predators; they don't invite them to the potluck.

*"Repent, or else I will come to you quickly and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth. (Revelation 2:16 NKJV)*

***The Christian life is not the absence of sin but the presence of repentance.***

*For the time [has come] for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if [it begins] with us first, what will [be] the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God? (1 Peter 4:17 NKJV)*

Paul told the Athenians that God has fixed a Day:

*"because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead." (Acts 17:31 NKJV)*

What does repentance look like, practically?

*Your glorying [is] not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened [bread] of sincerity and truth. (1 Corinthians 5:6-8 NKJV)*

Discipline is not unloving; it's gospel consistency.

***Repentance in a church looks like courageous leaders confronting celebrated sin.***

***Repentance in a life looks like confession without excuses.***

*"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives [it]." ' (Revelation 2:17 NKJV)*

***Compromise is not a niche warning; it's a universal temptation.***

***Compromise offers cotton candy; Christ gives true bread.***

Jesus doesn't just say "don't." He says "come and eat." He doesn't just say "stop." He says "receive a new name." Christianity isn't mainly renunciation; it's replacement of a greater appetite and a truer identity. If the Spirit puts His finger on something, the response is not despair but repent and believe the gospel. Jesus' warnings are a mercy to steer us back to Himself.

***Let's say together, with humility and hope, no compromise.***