

SE7EN Letter Three, to Pergamum: The Compromising Church Believers Statesboro 9-26-21
Water Baptism Sunday Pastor Scott Moore and adaptations from "Se7en" Liquid Church

The Letter Written to the Church of Pergamum (Revelation 2:12-17)

Revelation 2:12 These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. (Revelation 1:16)
Revelation 2:13 I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. We can't let the dark place we live in, be it a city, region, country, or culture surrounding us, cause us to compromise our beliefs in Christ Jesus. The evilness of the place we live in or work at is not an excuse.

Yet You Remain _____ to _____ Revelation 2:13b

Even when facing death, they did not deny Jesus. They remained true to Jesus' name. What about you and me?

The Warning Revelation 2:14-15

The Nicolaitans were saying, **"People of God, it's time to COMPROMISE"**
The church was compromising in two areas: 1) Sexual immorality and 2) compromising the truth. From the days of Balaam to the Nicolaitans of John's days, right up to today... **God's people have been tempted to make accommodations to pagan culture and its destructive practices.**

One _____ Compromise at a _____

We must understand that idols in our lives are built one small step, one small compromise at a time.
"Every day I gave a piece of myself away. It left me hungrier and emptier every time." -Nate Larkin

What's Your _____ of _____?

Bold Next Step: I will acknowledge my area of compromise in my life, knowing I cannot defeat what I don't identify.

You may be where you are in your life because of one small compromise at a time, but today is the day to fully, whole heartedly, repent, and turn away from your sins. **"Repent therefore!" Revelation 2:16**

The _____ of God is Abundant, but the _____ of God is Important Too (John 1:14)

Bold Next Step: After I acknowledge my area of compromise, I will repent.

The _____ to the Victorious

Revelation 2:17a "the hidden manna. (Exodus 16:32-34). (John 6:48-31)
Revelation 2:17b "a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it."
The new name reminds me that Jesus doesn't make us better, He makes us new. A new person in Christ!

Bold Next Step: I will write my new name I would like to have in heaven on my white stone. I will live my life worthy of that name.

Water Baptism, like your new name, declares you are new in Christ Jesus. Old things, all your past is washed away. All things are new. Only you and Jesus know your new name, but baptism is a public declaration for all to see.

Life App Group and Family Devotional Application

1. What are your initial impressions of the Church of Pergamum? What have they done right? (v. 13) What's their problem? What do they need to do? Explain what repentance really means?
2. Their city was referred to, by Jesus, as the Seat of _____. Is it important to know that Jesus knows where we live and what we are going through? Are our surroundings an excuse to compromise?
3. Read about the imagery of a two-edged sword in Hebrews 4:12 and Revelation 1:16. Why would it be helpful or important for the Church of Pergamum to see God as someone holding this type of sword?
4. Grace Wins and Truth Is Relevant. Considering the struggles at Pergamum, how important is it for us to balance these two core truths? How can we practice this?
5. In what ways do people build idols today? Does idolatry always seem or look bad? Explain.
6. What does it mean to be given a "New Name" by Christ himself? Can you help one another guess what their new name may be? Have some fun and encourage one another with possible new names!
Answers: True – Jesus' – Name / Small – Time / Area – Compromise / Grace – Truth / Promise