



October 18, 2009
Pastor Steve Smith ~ Lake View Church
#3 in Series: Letters To The 7 Churches

Ministering Where Satan Lives Revelation 2:12-17

Description of the _____ - Christ. v. 12

The sword is a symbolic representation of the Word of God's twofold ability to separate believers from the world and to condemn the world for its sin. It is the sword of salvation as well as the sword of death.
John F. Walvoord

Hebrews 4:12

_____ of the Church

v. 13a; "I know where you live—where _____ has his throne."

Its _____.

... a place of _____ authority, a playground of _____ influence and spiritual oppression

- ◆ _____ Prominence - In 133 B.C., Pergamum was one of the first cities in Asia to build a temple to Caesar Augustus which set up life-and-death tension between remaining true to Christ or capitulating to Roman pressure and confessing "Caesar is Lord."
- ◆ _____ Dominance – The city's features boasted _____ authority.
- ◆ Dominance of _____ Religions - It had _____ to Athena and Dionysus, and a titan altar to Zeus - Satan loved it all ... the _____ splendor and the _____ practices.

Their _____.

Instead of _____ away to greener subdivisions where the might be safe from the evil of this world, these Christians deliberately put down _____ in Pergamum.

The Christian life is not escape - it is _____.

Jesus also affirmed their _____ in the face of martyrdom -v. 13

Strong _____.

Sure, the witness of the church was sound and strong - unfortunately however, someone left the back door of c _____ open. v. 14-15

2 specific criticism's: 1) the influence of the teaching of _____.
2) the teaching of the _____.

_____, _____, and _____ in - the pressures are just as real today as they were back then.

According to Jesus such _____ will _____ everything and everybody.

the Problem

When compromised occurs, there is only one remedy = _____ - v. 16.

Tolerance is the word of our modern culture - but tolerating heretical teaching and sinful behavior in the church is not a _____, it is _____.

So serious that Christ warns them ...

1 Corinthians 5:6-7

the Testimony

Christ concludes His letter by offering words of counsel, encouragement and _____.

3 Gifts promised to those who *hear* and *overcome*:

- ◆ Hidden _____ – a picture of restored _____.
- ◆ A White _____ – denoting divine _____, _____ - for those who overcome.
- ◆ A New _____ – He will _____ us with a whole new identity!

Application

Compromise never shows its face for what it is. It always projects itself as: a little white lie, it's no big deal, we're just having a little fun, or, don't worry it's perfectly harmless. That's the way it may presented itself to the church at Pergamum ... and believe me, that is exactly how it will present itself to you and to us at Lake View Church.

- Compromise Never Happens _____.
- Compromise always _____ the standard.
- Compromise is rarely _____.
- Compromise is often a step toward total _____.
- Compromise will always _____ your family and friends.