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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **April 28, 2021** |

Title: *“Wake Up O Sleeper”*

Scripture: **Revelation 2:12-17**

Message: *7 PARTS TO EACH OF THE 7 CHURCH LETTER’S*

1. Who was the letter written to/about?

A. Church name: **Pergamum (in modern day Turkey)**

B. Period of church history: **300-800 AD (500 yr period)**

C. Church meaning: **“evil marriage”…married to the world**

**-When persecution failed to stop the church, Satan tried another tactic and this time it worked**

**-He tried the tactic of joining the church to the world**

**-In 313 AD Constantine became Emperor of Rome and instead of persecuting the church, he issued the Edict of Milan legalizing Christianity**

**-He baptized whole villages into the church, salvation was not necessary, everyone became a Christian by royal decree**

**-This gave birth to the Roman Catholic Church that even today still has an impact on their “evil marriage” (ex. Christmas)**

2. How did John describe Jesus? **Him who has the sharp, double-edged sword (vs 12)**

3. “Eyes were like blazing fire” **(vs 13) “know”…sees the inner man & this time where they live**

4. What was the work of the church? **(vs’ 13-15) Kept their faith in God, enticed to sin, followed the Nicolaitans (Jesus hated)**

5. What was Jesus’ response to their work? **Repent or He would judge them now & would raise up Godly men to preach the truth against them (vs 16)**

6. “Obedient Hearing” **(vs 17) “whoever has ears, let them hear”…be victorious**

7. What is the promise(s) to those who hear with the intent to obey? **Give hidden manna, white stone (diamond) with a new name (either God’s or ours)**

**Revelation 2:12-17** “12“To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. 13I know where you live—where Satan has his throne **(Satan is not omnipresent, physically was located here…Pergamum was the center of demon worship, idol worship and black magic…the alter built for the pagan god Zeus was the throne of Satan…archeologists from Germany, with the permission of the Turkish government, moved the alter in its entirety to Berlin Germany in 1930…Hitler went into power in 1933 with a goal to destroy the Jews, God’s chosen people)**. Yet you remain true to my name. You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas **(was the first Christian martyr killed by the Romans…according to secular history, demons went to the Romans and said they had to do something about Antipas because they were losing the battle due to his preaching the gospel and so many getting saved…he was placed in the hollow brass bull on the throne of Satan and roasted to death)**, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives. 14Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. **(Satan inspired Balaam to instruct Balak that in order to defeat the Israelites faith they needed to be tempted into fornication…Balak sent in immoral women to tempt the Israelite men and it worked…what persecution couldn’t do, paganism did do)** 15Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans **(church run government “Vatican”, only a select group of men could come directly to God and all others had to approach God through them “priests”…the veil was torn at Jesus’ crucifixion, He hates this teaching)**. 16Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you **(judge them on earth)** and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth **(raise up Godly men to preach the truth against them)**. 17Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.”

Application:

* Wake Up O Sleeper…Satan figured out that when you threatened a Christian it only made us stronger, but when you tempt us with the things we are weak in the flesh on we will fail and not even realize how far we have fallen away from God
* We no longer stand against sin in our life, we give into it and justify it away not realizing that it was all orchestrated by Satan to destroy you
* God promises to judge us on earth and raise up preachers to preach the truth against our failing Godly life
* You say you believe in God and go to church so all must be good…we are no different than the church of Pergamum because they didn’t deny their belief in God or stop attending church, they just became hypocrites being destroyed by Satan
* How desperate I am to live like Antipas that the demons are upset because my relationship with Jesus is so strong and is making a difference for Him that the demons are conspiring to destroy me!
* Are you willing to commit to such a passionate lifestyle for Jesus that hell wages a war against you? Do you have that much courage for Jesus?