

## Return To Sender

### Revelation 2:12-17 / Pergamum

*"And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this: <sup>13</sup>I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. <sup>14</sup>But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality. <sup>15</sup>So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans. <sup>16</sup>Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth. <sup>17</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it."* Revelation 2:12-17 (New American Standard Bible)

**How can a Christian's faith survive in a corrupt world? This passage teaches the importance of not compromising our faith.**

#### ➤ God Knows The Problems We Face (Revelation 2:12-13)

Jesus Knows:

- Where you dwell
- You hold fast My name
- You did not deny My faith

Question: Where in my life does Satan have his throne?

#### ➤ God Knows The Position We Are In (Revelation 2:14-15)

Teaching of Balaam – See Numbers 22-25.  
The Israelites compromised their faith

*For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, <sup>27</sup>but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES.*  
Hebrews 10:26-27 (New American Standard Bible)

We compromise because we compartmentalize our lives.

- We compromise what we put into our minds.
- We compromise what we put into our eyes.
- We compromise what we put into our ears.

#### ➤ God Knows The Promise of Restoration (Revelation 2:16-17)

Repent immediately!

- "metanoia" – to change one's mind

Return to me and remember:

1. Our citizenship is not here.

*For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; . . .* Philippians 3:20 (NASB)

2. We don't belong to ourselves.

*For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; <sup>8</sup>for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.* Romans 14:7-8 (NASB)

3. Do not conform to the patterns of this world.

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.* Romans 12:2 (NASB)

4. We are to uphold the Word of God.

*For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.* Hebrews 4:12 (NASB)

**Compromising? Return to Sender!**