



DEAR CHURCH IN PERGAMUM

Sermon Notes

Text: Revelation 2:12-17

Intro:

Words have power:

“The pen is mightier than the sword” ~Edward Bulwer-Lytton

Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 1:16; 2:12,16

The letter to the church in Pergamum describes a battle for the mind.

The Problem in Pergamum:

We must obey God rather than the authority found in the phrase “everyone is doing it.”

Common belief: It doesn’t matter what you do with your body, as long as your soul is committed to the Lord.

The truth: Jesus is redeeming both body AND soul.

All of us are equally called by the Lord of the church to repent, to change our minds and to submit to his way of thinking.

Romans 12:1-2

The Promise of Jesus:

Revelation 2:17

- Manna - Spiritual food provided by Jesus
- White stone & a new name - intimate relationship with Jesus

Winning the Battle of the mind:

1. Identify the assailants in the battle
2. Let your life be shaped by Jesus’ word

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Today, we live in a culture much like Pergamum: we have a variety of influences that battle for our minds: education, religion, politics, etc. All of these are good things, which can be turned into bad influences by our enemy, the Devil. How do we practice acceptance and love of people who live and believe differently than us, while still remaining true to our beliefs? Can you truly accept a person without excepting their beliefs?
2. Read Romans 12:1-2. This passage is an explanation of the concept of "repentance." Repentance begins with submitting our thoughts to Jesus, then it leads to a change of action which aligns with those new thought patterns.
 - How does someone offer their body as "a living sacrifice"? Why is this sacrifice considered an act of worship?
 - How do we "renew" our minds? Where should we begin?
3. What are some of the assailants in the battle for your mind (influences that shape your thinking, which may not be in line with Jesus' word). How can you begin limiting their influence on you? In what ways can you increase the influence of Jesus' word in your life?

Prayer:

- Pray for Jesus' help in the battle for your mind

Other Requests

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