

Sermon Questions Revelation 2:12-29

This week we studied the churches of Pergamum and Thyatira in chapter 2 of the book of Revelation. Both of these churches were strong in some areas but ultimately suffered in a similar fashion due to false teaching from within. In Pergamum, they were rebuked for some who held to the teaching of Balaam and others who held to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. In Thyatira they tolerated the teaching of Jezebel, which was also leading God's people astray. God hates false teaching because it leads people away from God and often times into sexual immorality and idolatry. This study should not only help us take note of BRAVE Church as a whole, but should also encourage a time of self-reflection. The only way out of immorality and idolatry is repentance. May this study be an opportunity to repent and get right with the Lord.

Here are some notes to review from this week's sermon...

The Structure of the Letters

1. Recipient
2. Attribute of Christ
3. Strengths
4. Weaknesses
5. Challenge
6. Promise for the Listener

The Compromised and the Tolerant Revelation 2:12-29

Do not compromise the Word of God or neglect His demands for holiness

Hearing the Word of God and responding to Him is extremely important. If you haven't had the chance to listen to the message from this week you can now watch it here. After watching, please use the following questions (if you find them helpful) in your BRAVE groups (now online every weekday) or discuss them with your family and/or friends. If you are not in a BRAVE Group now is a great time to get involved. Please email to info@bravechurch.co and we will get you connected with a community that will work for you.

Questions

1. In Pergamum, why is Jesus described as the one who has the sharp two-edged sword? What is the sharp two-edged sword? Why would He be described this way to this specific church? How important is it to not compromise the Word of God?
2. Why was Pergamum where Satan's throne was? Why does Satan want people to worship a man? How difficult would it have been to live in a city where emperor worship was expected? What lessons can be learned from this church?
3. How faithful was the church in Pergamum even in the face of martyrdom?
4. Why was God concerned with false teaching in the church? Why was the false teaching of Balaam so problematic? What is a false teacher? How do you spot a false teacher? Who and what is the authority of a true teacher?
5. What behaviors did false teaching in the church lead to? Why was and is immorality and idolatry a problem in the church? Do churches today still deal with immorality and idolatry? What are ways in which you have seen these behaviors played out in churches? In your life?
6. What is the only cure for immorality and idolatry? What is repentance? How does repentance differ from commitment? How often should you repent? When you repent what are you demonstrating? What does it mean that Jesus will make war against those who do not repent?
7. What is the promise of the hidden manna? How significant is it that you are promised a deeper relationship and intimacy with Jesus Christ? As a believer, how do you feel about being not guilty and having an all-access pass into the coming kingdom?
8. When you see Jesus "with eyes like a flame" what do you picture? When you consider Christ's judgment, what escapes His notice? How important is it for our lifestyle to reflect Christ presently? How is that even possible?
9. Even though the church at Thyatira had been growing in their faith, why was God upset with them? What were they tolerating? Why was listening to Jezebel so troublesome? How serious is God about the sin of false teaching in the church? Who does He hold responsible?
10. What was the problem with Jezebel being a self-proclaimed prophetess? What was her teaching causing in the Body of Christ? Why was this such a concern to God for His church? How long should we tolerate false teaching? What happens when the teaching no longer has its authority in the Word of God but rather in a person?

11. How were those who didn't follow Jezebel's teaching instructed? What was the promise they were given if they were overcomers?
12. When considering compromising the Word of God and tolerating immorality how did God speak to you this weekend? How can repentance impact what He was showing to you? Why as a believer is it so important to recognize and run from false teaching?