

The Church married to the world

I know where you live- where Satan's throne is! And you are holding on to My name and did not deny your faith in Me, even in the days of Antipas, My faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan lives. But I have a few things against you. You have some there who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to place a stumbling block in front of the sons of Israel: to eat meat sacrificed to idols and to commit sexual immorality. In the same way, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans (a heretical sect, who compromised with pagan cults). Therefore repent! Otherwise, I will come to you quickly and fight against them with the sword of My mouth. ... I will give the victor some of the hidden manna (the bread of life); I will also give him a white stone (freedom from slavery to sin); and on the stone a new name is inscribed that no one knows except the one who receives it (the new identity in Christ through His sanctification) (Rev. 13-17).

The Church of Pergamum was the center of the ancient sun worship. YAHSHUA condemned her for her fraternization with those who followed the doctrines of Balaam and Nicolaitans which were teachings that mislead and unrestrained indulgence. The prophetic era or period of this church was between 313-538, a period of spiritual and moral decadence and deterioration in the union formed between Christianity and paganism. This situation was created by the Emperor Constantine, who embraced Christianity and mingled it with paganism. The principle of Christianity was then sacrificed and the pagan beliefs continued being accepted. This was the time when the marriage of church and state happened and practices including the Christmas and the Easter celebrations were adopted by the Christian churches. Today, we continue under the rebuke of YAHSHUA without change. As the Pergamum Church, today's church is also compromising with the world in its doctrines and acceptance of paganism, as in ecumenism.

YAHSHUA identified the place of this church, the place where Satan lives and where he has his throne. In spite of it, YAHSHUA commended her for holding on to His name, and for not denying Him even in the days of the faithful Antipas, who had been killed for his faith. YAHSHUA calls the church of Pergamum to repentance or else she had to suffer the consequences. He said, Therefore repent! Otherwise, I will come to you quickly and fight against them with the sword of My mouth (Vs.16). The sword of His mouth is His word; powerful, destructive as we read in Jeremiah 23:29: Is not My word like fire – the sledgehammer that pulverizes rock? By the power of His word He executes judgment on earth; His word is alive and full of power; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life and spirit, and of joints and marrow, exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart (Heb. 4:12).

Pergamum, the city where the throne of Satan is, and where he lives, was a place from where emperor worship flowed to the whole Roman Empire; there was the home for the serpent god which had a form of a snake, called the idol of Asklepios, the god of healing. Medicine was

mingled with superstitions; many spent the night with snake crawling over them expecting healings. The belief of many sects is that healings come in many forms; this idea has mingled with churches' teachings today, given an appearance of truth to deceive many.

But the Word of YAHWEH warns and teaches us to test the spirits in I John 4:1: Beloved, do not put faith in every spirit, but prove (test) the spirits to discover whether they proceed from YAHWEH; for many false prophets have gone forth into the world. Spiritual discernment is necessary to recognize the spirits, for many has the appearance of holy to deceive many. Remember, Satan comes as an angel of light, looking good and handsome, as in the form of angels which we display in our home. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, And it is no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light (II Cor. 11:14). Today's church is emerged in ecumenism, portraying the compromising church of Pergamum. The warning of YAHSHUA with the call of repentance is still valid today. There is a solemn call for YAHWEH'S people to leave the church that is involved with the world. The idolatrous practices of ecumenism are an abomination to our Lord for the union of churches is an unequal yoke and against the teachings of YAHWEH'S Word; no one can serve two masters said YAHSHUA, you cannot serve YAHWEH and money; two cannot walk together without agreeing to meet or having the same principle of faith. It is true in the physical marriage and it is also true in the spiritual union. Many years ago Joshua, after had lead Israelites into the Promised Land, made the decision to follow only the true YAHWEH; he said, ... choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15). Who is your church married to? Christ or to the world? Who are you married to? Are you practicing spiritual polygamy in the name of Christianity?

Repent, or else says the Lord. Be not conformed to the world, or to its vain way of thinking. The Lord is YAHWEH ELOHIM; He is holy and desires you to be holy and separated for Himself only.