

## REVELATION

# FINDING PEACE IN A WORLD OF CHAOS





Week 5: Letter 3: Compromising on Truth

**Date:** Week of 2/4/24

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

#### Bridgebuilder Opening

1. What are some ways that we "treat ourselves" or loosen our rules/standards after we have accomplished or gone through something difficult?

#### Observations and Interpretations

- 1. Read (Rev. 2:12-17), and circle or highlight any words that stand out to you. What are some of your observations from this initial reading of the text?
- 2. What does the letter commend the church at Pergamum for? Why was this so commendable?
- 3. How could the church stand so strong against persecution but be so loose on moral standards like sexual immorality? How are we tempted in this way today?
- 4. The problem in Pergamum was that much of the church had lost its cutting edge, its ability to say no to the surrounding culture. How do we take this warning seriously and not succumb to societal pressures that lead us away from following Jesus properly and faithfully?

- 5. Why do you think this letter in particular is written from the one with the twoedged sword and mentions punishment coming from the sword of my mouth?
  - a. Both are references to the Word of God, Scripture being the ultimate source of truth for the church to follow.
- 6. What is the main thing John is trying to teach us in these verses? (final question)

#### **Applications**

- 1. This year our church is focusing on the theme of helping to bring *peace* into our lives and city. How can this text help give you *peace*, as you live in a world of chaos?
- 2. What are the most common sins today that are often tolerated or even encouraged in the church?
- 3. In one sentence, state one thing the Lord wants you to take away from this study?

### The Gospel and Prayer

As the church, we must always be aware that we still live in a fallen world whether from outside teachers or from our own sinful nature. We have not arrived at God's perfection until we meet him again face to face. We have to be aware that we can be strong and faithful in some areas while still having a blind spot or weakness for other sins. We can rely on the power of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection to not only forgive us for the penalty of sin but also to empower us to continue fighting our sin.