



## Tolerance/Compromise

Revelation 2:12-17

## Study #4

Chris Wilson continued the series we have been going through by looking at the church of Pergamum. He gave us context and background and then helped us cross the bridge to our own day and helped us see how the message still has meaning for us today. We are going to review Chris' message, discuss the passage, and look for ways to make specific application in our own lives.

### Getting Started

Chris referred to a quote from John Piper that included the following statement: God is most glorified when we are most satisfied in Him. Spend a few minutes talking about this to begin conversation.

What does "when we are most satisfied in Him" mean?

What does being "most satisfied in Him" look like?

How does this glorify God the most?

How is this approach different from your normal interaction?

Read the entire passage before looking at the individual verses. Think back to Chris' points and use them as a launching point.

### The words of Christ ... verse 12

**Divide truth from error.**

**Are the ultimate judge.**

When have you experienced the sword of the Word?

How do you generally think about God's Word?

How and what is being judged here?

How does Hebrews 4:13 apply to this concept?

We get to see what the church at Pergamum is doing right in this verse. We also get a picture of what was going on at the time.

### Christ commends them for ... verse 13

**Remaining true to His name.**

**Not renouncing their faith.**

**Holding strong under persecution.**

What significance is there in the fact the church was commended for their positive actions at this point?

What was Pergamum like at the time of this writing?

What challenges did they face?

What similar challenges do we face in our culture?

What does "remaining true to His name" mean?

Now we get a peak at what they were doing wrong. Look for the ways we might fall into the same traps today.

### Christ rebukes them for their ... verse 14,15

**Compromise.**

**Tolerance.**

How did the church at Pergamum compromise?

What entices us to compromise?

What are we holding onto that keeps us compromising/tolerating?

What is the motivation behind tolerance?

### Christ encourages them to ... verse 16

**Repent**

**or**

**Be Judged**

What are the prerequisites for true repentance?

How do we know if we have repented?

What does it look like for a Christian to be judged (look at Hebrews 12)? Describe a personal experience of discipline.

This is the final verse in our study. Think about reasons why John chose to end with this point as you discuss the verse.

### Christ is the sufficiency for those who are faithful. verse 17

What does it mean for Christ to be our sufficiency?

What things vie for dominance in your life?

What does it look like for *you* to be faithful? What challenges do you face? How does this promise motivate you?.

Make it a group goal to have each group member come up with a specific application from the text.

### Application Questions

Does your daily life reflect that you came to Christ *only* or *also*?

What have you brought into your relationship with Christ from your past that inhibits your reliance on Him?

Ask God to reveal the answer and show you what to do about it.

### Prayer

Group members should have an application-specific item as their first prayer request

Pray for each group member's OneReach person.

Please pray for Ted and the mission team as they minister in Sudan.