**Revelation**

Rev 2:12-17 – The Mixed Multitude of Pergamos

Background

* Pergamos
  + Means “parchment”
  + Built the first temple for emperor worship
  + Antipas – Martyred
    - John MacArthur - Tradition says he was burned to death inside a brass bull. They created a brass bull, hollowed it out, started a fire and put him in it.
* He that hath the sharp sword with two edges (v 12)
  + Unless they repent, he will fight against them with the sword of my mouth (v 17)
    - And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. (Rev 19:15)
* Overcomers
* Hidden Manna
* White Stone – the stone contains a new name
  + There are two plausible explanations. In an ancient court of law, when defendants were condemned, they received a black stone with their name on it. If they were acquitted, they received a white stone. Similarly, those who have trusted Jesus Christ for salvation will receive an acquittal from the judgment of God. What a relief it is to know that our sins are forgiven!
  + Another explanation comes from the ancient olympic games. When athletes won, they were awarded a white stone, which was a token of honor.
  + Together, these illustrations show us the wonderful balance of the Christian life. We are saved by grace through faith alone (Ephesians 2:8-9). Yet obedient Christians often struggle as they seek to serve the One who saved them. One explanation of the white stone is a picture of unearned acquittal. The other shows that we will be rewarded for acts of good works (1 Corinthians 3:13-14). (Our Daily Bread)

Good

* Hold Fast His Name
  + Using the Lord’s name in vain
* Not Denied HIS Faith

Bad

* Doctrine of Balaam
  + 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam *the son* of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man’s voice forbad the madness of the prophet. 17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. 18 For when they speak great swelling *words* of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, *through much* wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. (2 Pet 2:15-19)
  + Money
    - Stumbling Block
      * Eat Things Sacrificed to Idols
      * Commit Fornication
* Doctrine of Nicolaitanes

Solution

* Repent
  + Urgent
  + Christ will fight against them with the sword of His mouth