

**God Is Government**

**Isaiah 33:22**

**“For the LORD is our judge, the  
LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is  
our KING; he will save us.”**

**TEACHINGS OF YESHUA HAMASHIACH  
BIBLICAL AND WORLD HISTORY MASTERCLASS**

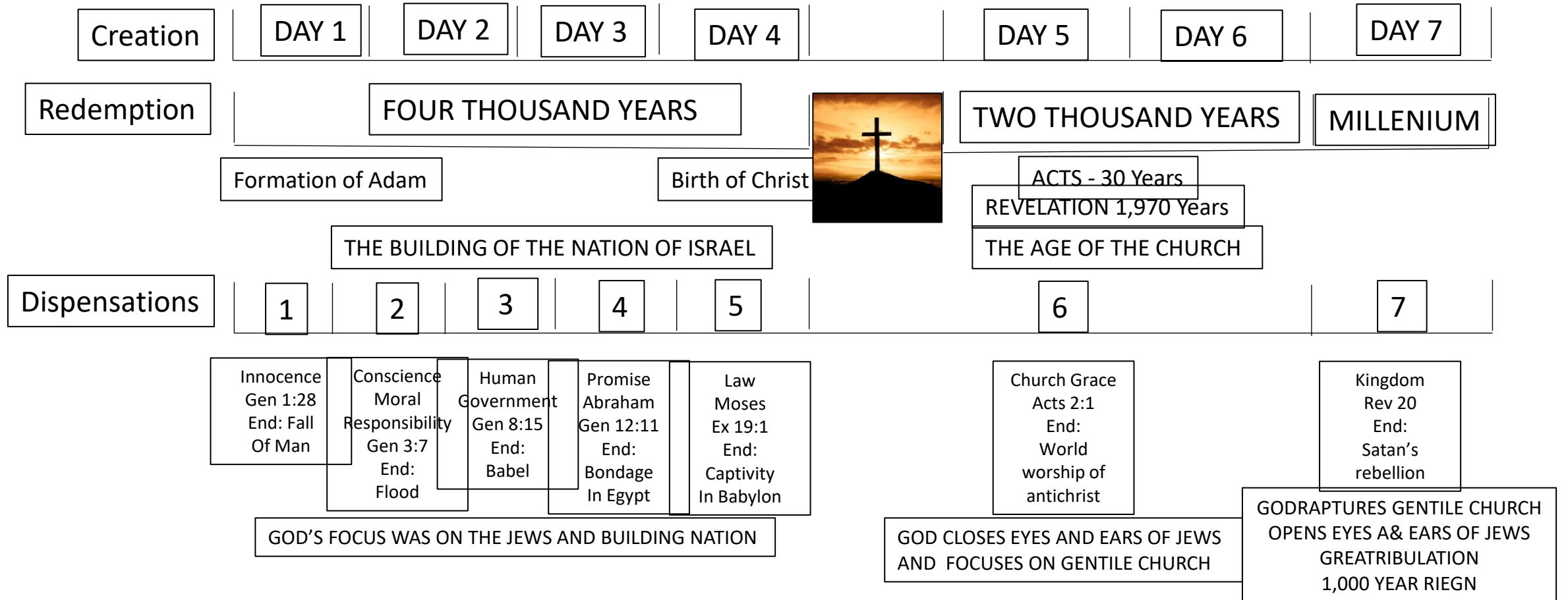
**A Study of Revelation**

**Letter to the Church at Pergamum**

**Chapter 2**

**March 28, 2024**

# CREATION (GENESIS) – REDEMPTION (REVELATION) TIMEFRAME



## The Seven Churches

- The seven churches are
  - ❖ Ephesus
  - ❖ Smyrna
  - ❖ Pergamos
  - ❖ Thyatira
  - ❖ Sardis
  - ❖ Philadelphia
  - ❖ Laodicea
- These seven, somehow are completely representative of the Church in total – the age of the church history.
- The degree, the way they are ordered, are anticipatory of history (prophetic) is astonishing!

## Revelation 1:10-11 – VISION OF THE SON OF MAN

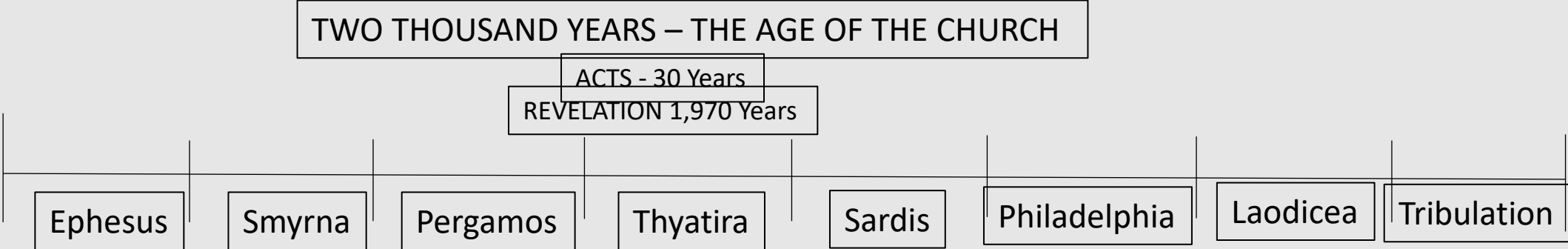
### **“I WAS IN THE SPIRIT.....” John says four times**

- On the “day of the Lord” (At Patmos) Revelation 1:10
- To the Throne in Heaven Revelation 4:2
- Carried away in the wilderness Revelation 17:3
- Carried to a mountain Revelation 21:10

John was “in the spirit” but the key phrase here is “On the day of the LORD” (Revelation 1:10). John, through the spirit was brought forward through time and was given the ability to “SEE” what was going to happen. He was able to “SEE” “the day of the LORD,” even though he is on the island of Patmos. In chapter 4, he is in the spirit and at the throne room in heaven.

There is another phrase to pay attention to. “Thunders, voices, lightening's, and an earthquake.” The first time we see the phrase it is in regard to the Throne (Rev 4:5) and another referring to the opening of the seven seals (Rev 8:5), Trumpets (Rev 11:9) and Bowls (Rev 16:18).

# REDEMPTION (REVELATION) TIMEFRAME



## Revelation 1:10-11 – VISION OF THE SON OF MAN

### The Seven Churches: “The Things That Are”

- There is Divine outline of the book of Revelation. The entire book is like a cover letter that is then sent to the seven churches. Each letter to the seven churches contains the same closing phrase “He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” There are four levels of interpretation or application of these seven letters:
  - ❖ **LOCAL:** There were actual churches (researched extensively by Sir William Ramsey and found these churches existed and they had problems that the letters were relevant to.)
  - ❖ **ADMONITORY:** It says “churches” meaning all of them. Each message applies to each, to some extent.
  - ❖ **HOMILETIC:** the phrase “He that hath an ear” is a personal letter that applies to us.
  - ❖ **PROPHETIC:** In their particular order they profile and lay out the history of the church. (They fill the gap implied in Daniel 9:26 and between Revelation 12:5 and 6).

## **Revelation 1:10-11 – VISION OF THE SON OF MAN**

### **Seven Design Elements In Each of the Letters**

- Name of the Church: Each church name proves to be significant to its particular unique message.
- Title of Christ Chosen: Jesus will select a title, from those listed in Chapter One, to represent Himself to each church, a title characteristic for the unique letter.
- Commendation: Some good news.
- Concern: the bad news.
- Exhortation: what to correct.
- Promise to the Overcomer: this will prove to be an interesting structural element.
- “He that hath an ear what the Spirit says to the churches”: the close.

Every detail will prove important: even the placement of the closing phrase will prove illuminating.

## **The Church at Pergamum**



## The Church of Pergamum

*Rev 2:12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write;*

The name “Pergamum” is the neuter form of the name “Pergamos” which is the feminine form of Pergamum. It means mixed marriage.

### MIXED MARRIAGE

In the first book of the Bible we read, “The sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose” (Genesis 6:2). This verse tells us that the sons of God, attracted by physical beauty, intermarried with the daughters of men without regard to their spiritual qualifications. They chose only by what they saw. Any marriage based solely upon physical attraction is woefully inadequate. Spiritual agreement is the divine basis for true unity. The mixed marriage of the sons of God with the daughters of men resulted in complete spiritual indifference and ultimately in physical destruction. The Lord was angry and declared, “My spirit shall not always strive with man” (Genesis 6:3).

## Historical Background - Pergamum

- Pergamum was located about forty-eight miles north of Smyrna.
  - ❖ Ephesus, the great political center
  - ❖ Smyrna, the great commercial center
  - ❖ Pergamum, the great religious center
  
- In early history is obscure; there are evidences that it was occupied during the stone and bronze ages, but prior to Alexander the Great, Pergamum was little more than a castle on top of a hill.
- Its foundation is scribed to Arcadian colonists under the Heracleid Telephus (who routed the Achaeans on their landing in Mysia to attack Troy). Its name is said to have been derived from the son of Pyrrhus and Andromache who made himself king of Teuthrania by killing the king in a single combat.
- After defeating of Antigonus in Ipsus in 301 B.C. , the northwest Asia Minor was united to the “Thracian kingdom of Lysimachus. It is impregnable position lent itself to its use as a treasury. However, Philetaerus betrayed Lysimachus’ trust by allying himself with Seleucus, Lysimachus’ rival. Subsequent rulers skillfully established themselves as a dominant power in Asia Minor and one of the principal centers of Hellenistic culture.

## Historical Background – Pergamum

- Wisely allying with Rome, It became an extremely wealthy and prosperous city, and for two centuries it became the official capital of the Roman province of Asia. Lacking proximity to the key trade routes. It eventually yields economic advantages to its better located rival, Ephesus.
- Pergamum is about eighteen miles from the sea, about eighty miles north of Smyrna. The present city of Bergama has a population of only 42,000 (vs. almost 200,000 of the old city). Zeus is said to have been born there. The great altar stood on a foundation 125 feet by 115 feet, over 50 feet high, set in a colonnaded enclosure (satan's throne? Revelation 2:13)

## Historical Background – Pergamum Caduceus

- The Caduceus was the official emblem of Pergamum. One of the venerated idols from Pergamum was Aesculapius, and he was considered the god of healing. Some believe the legend of Aesculapius originally emerged from the brazen serpent of Moses (Numbers 21:8-9). This is an example of a “Marcocode”: an anticipatory sememe, explained by Christ (John 3:14) and leading to the most famous verse of all John 3:16.

*Num 21:6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.*

*Num 21:7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.*

*Num 21:8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.*

*Num 21:9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.*

## Historical Background – Pergamum Caduceus

- The verse in Numbers make no sense until Jesus explains to Nicodemus in John 3:14-16

*Joh 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:*

*Joh 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.*

*Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

## Historical Background – Pergamum Caduceus

- Moses staff of brass from Numbers 21 became an anticipatory sign of the crucifixion of Jesus Christ!

*2Ki 18:1 Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz king of Judah began to reign.*

*2Ki 18:2 Twenty and five years old was he when he began to reign; and he reigned twenty and nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name also was Abi, the daughter of Zachariah.*

*2Ki 18:3 And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father did.*

*2Ki 18:4 He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brasen serpent that Moses had made: for unto those days the children of Israel did burn incense to it: and he called it Nehushtan.*

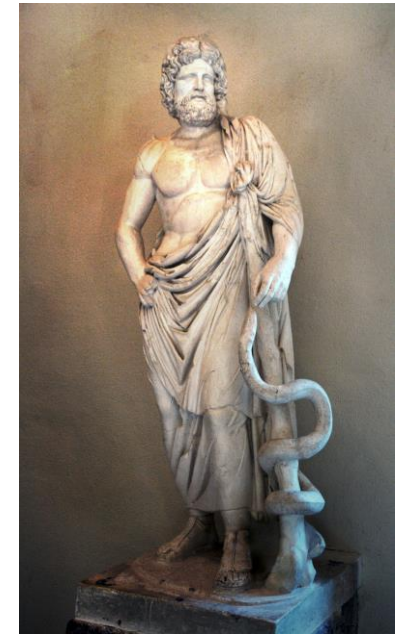
## Historical Background – Pergamum Caduceus

- The brass symbol had become a fetish, called Nehushtan, and was destroyed by King Hezekiah. The legend of Aesculapius was a derivative of this idolatry. Sculptures of him are often seen with a snake on a pole next to him. A snake is a symbol of “SIN.” Brass was the metal that could sustain heat, so often it was a sign of “judgment.” The idea of a brazen serpent on a pole is an expression of sib being judged. Jesus Christ on the cross was made sin for us.

## Historical Background – Pergamum

### Aesculapius

- Long before the New Testament days, Aesculapius had been recognized as a god (the son of Apollo and the virgin Coronis). He was termed “Savior” and it was claimed that he had the power to avert death. He was originally represented by the Anatolians as a serpent, and the Greeks later depicted him holding Hermes’ staff (the god of commerce) with the two-headed snake.





## Historical Background – Pergamum Aesculapius

- Friedlander surveyed 242 logos or insignias of today's American organization related to the health or medical associations in which the caduceus or staff of Aesculapius formed an integral part dating from late 1970's to early 1980's. He found that professional associations were more likely to use the staff of Aesculapius (62%) while commercial organizations were more like to use the caduceus (76%).



## Historical Background – Pergamum Aesculapius

- The exception is for hospitals, where only 37% used a staff of Aesculapius verses 63% for the caduceus (but remember that U.S. hospitals are usually commercial ventures).
- *Asclepions became a practice of health institutions that prospered for about eight centuries before the scientific medical practice begun by Hippocrates. Ascelepeions functioned mostly by psychiatry (Occultist) and suggestion. Sleep (drugs and others) to cause patients to dream, and then interpret, etc. Bathing, whispered consultations, music, plays, and other techniques were employed as therapeutic aids.*



## **The Church of Pergamum**

### **Revelation 2:12 – Title of Christ**

*And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;*

The word Pergamos is translated from two Greek words; per meaning mixed, objectionable (pervert, perturbation, inappropriate, etc.) and gamos meaning marriage (monogamy, bigamy, polygamy, etc.). So, the word Pergamos means mixed marriage or objectionable marriage. The word pergo can also mean “high” or a high marriage.

A title of Christ and the word of God is described as a ‘Two-edged Sword’ (Hebrews 4:12, compare to Revelation 1). This is described as the primary remedy of the situation in Pergamos. The “Right of the Sword” is the highest official authority and contains the power of life and death.

## The Church of Pergamum

### Revelation 2:13 - Commendation

*I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.*

The word Antipas in Greek means “against all.” We do not know much about who Antipas was but Simeon Metaphrastes has a legendary story that Antipas, in Domitian’s reign, was shut up in a red-hot brazen bull, and ended his life in thanksgiving and prayers. Another author, Hengstenberg, makes the name symbolical, meaning one standing out “against all” for Christ.

Despite the difficult circumstances in which they found themselves, the believers at Pergamum courageously maintained their faith in Jesus Christ. He commended them for continuing to HOLD FAST HIS NAME – even though they lived WHERE satan’s THRONE IS, WHERE satan DWELLS.

## **The Church of Pergamum**

### **Revelation 2:13 - Commendation**

*I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.*

#### **satan is Real**

The reality is satan is real. Jesus describes his character as a: murderer (john 8:44); deciver (Revelation 12:9; Corinthians 11:3); liar (john 8:44); and sinner (1 John 3:8). He also has a Domain: a vast demonic kingdom (Matthew 25:41; Revelation 12:7); world System (1 John 5:19); but he is local and can not be omnipresent.

# The Church of Pergamum

## Revelation 2:13 - Commendation

### satan's Titles

- “adversary”
- “accuser of the Brethren”
- “god of this world”
- “prince of the power of the air”
- “the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience”
- “the enemy that sowed tares”
- “The wicked one”

1 Timothy 5:14; 1 Peter 5:8

Revelation 12:10

2 Corinthians 4:4

Ephesians 2:2

Ephesians 2:2

Matthew 13:39

Six times God uses this title!

# The Church of Pergamum

## Revelation 2:13 - Commendation

### Spiritual Geography

- The locality of satan and his demons (not omnipresent)
- Territorial (Daniel 10; Revelation 9:14; 16:12)
- The Migration: from Babylon to Pergamos to Romen – Nimrod to the Caesars then to all nations as Rome crumbled in its bureaucracy. The whole world came from Rome. Some have left its grip but the majority has not. USA is a Roman Empire state.

God tells the church in Pergamos to “Hold fast my name” (His name I always singular). The Third Commandment speaks of ambassadorship!

## **The Church of Pergamum**

### **Revelation 2:14-15 - Concern**

*Rev 2:14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.*

*Rev 2:15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate.*



## **The Church of Pergamum**

### **Revelation 2:16 - Exhortation**

*Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.*

Jesus is using a reference from the Old Testament to make a point.

#### **The Prophet of Balaam**

The prophet of Balaam was a Gentile. He is called a “soothsayer” (Joshua 13:22) and he was from Mesopotamia (Deuteronomy 23:4-5) by Euphrates, Aram (Numbers 22:5; 23:7). Balaam was hired by Balak, the King of the Moabites to curse Israel. God tells Balaam not to go but he continues to go anyway. On his journey, Balaam was rebuked by his donkey (Numbers 22) and an angel is revealed to him. Balaam refused to curse Israel (Numbers 23 & 24) but instructed the king on how to defeat Israel (Numbers 31:16).

Note: Nicolaitans have become doctrine! Oh, by the way it is still today. Compare “the counsel of Balaam (Numbers 31:16) and Josephus (Antiquities of the Jews 4.6.6)

## Three References to Balaam in New Testament

- “Doctrine of Balaam” (Revelation 2:14) Spiritual unchaste; marriage with the world is the theme of this letter to Pergamum
- “Way of Balaam” (2 Peter 2:15) Hireling; making a “market” for his gift; sold his gift of prophecy for money
- “Error of Balaam” (Jude 11) Sacrificing eternal riches for temporal gain

## The Church of Pergamum

### Revelation 2:17 – Promise to the Overcomer

*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.*

Notice that the “Promise to the Overcomer” comes after the “He that hath an ear” phrase – again a postscript. The “white stone” confuses many scholars and there are many conjectures on its meaning. Why? Because they have not connected Genesis to Revelation with the host body system. It was a Roman tradition to give a white stone with your name on it that would give you food and access to games, like an entrance ticket. The white stone with your name that no one knows is the activation of the third strand DNA by God once you have accepted His redemption and changed everything in your life. This is the ticket to heaven and the name written into the Lambs Book of Life. This is your ticket to heaven.

## The Church of Pergamum

### Revelation 2:17 – Promise to the Overcomer

*He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.*

#### Manna

The name manna means “What is it?” For forty years, the Israelites had manna for breakfast, lunch and dinner. They would collect it daily for six days only (Exodus 16). It is described poetically as “food from heaven,” “bread of the mighty” (Psalms 78:24f) and “bread of heaven” (Psalms 105:40).

The hidden manna is “I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE” (John 6:26-58).

## **Perspective to the First Three Churches (Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamum)**

### **Admonitory Level (to all churches)**

- **Ephesus**                      **Devotion, not just doctrine**
- **Smyrna**                        **Endure persecution**
- **Pergamum**                    **Purify ambassadorship**

### **STAND FAST AGAINST THE WORLD!**

**15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.**

**17 And the world passed away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.**

**- 1 john 2:15-17**

# **Perspective to the First Three Churches (Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamum)**

**Personal Level (Homiletics – to each of us today)**

- **Ephesus**                      **Neglected priorities**
- **Smyrna**                        **satanic opposition**
- **Pergamum**                    **Spiritual compromise**

**STRENGTHEN, PURIFY YOUR AMBASSADORSHIP. AND ACCURATELY REPRESENT YOUR KING!!!!!!**

## **Perspective to the First Three Churches (Ephesus, Smyrna, and Pergamum)**

### **Promises to the Overcomer**

- **Ephesus**                      **Eat of the Tree of Life**
- **Smyrna**                        **Not hurt of the Second Death – satan’s grave of the fiery pit**
- **Pergamum**                    **Manna, Stone (DNA change) New Name (Name in Lamb’s Book of Life – your ticket to heaven)**

### **Who is the “Overcomer”?**

*1Jn 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.*

*1Jn 5:5 Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?*

# **The Church of Pergamum Begins in Babylon**

## **Prophetic Profile**

**Pergamum represents the “Married Church.” Their history plays a part in the corruption of the church in Roman times, but the story really starts with Babylon.**

### **Babylonian Legend**

Tammuz was born to Nimrod and Semiramis. He was associated with the sun god and thought to have “died” at the winter solstice (on or about December 22) but yet is “resurrected” as the days get longer. The Babylonians would celebrate the night he dies by burning a “yule” log (in Chaldean means “infant”) and replaced by a trimmed tree the next morning (Jeremiah 10:1-5). Also, mistletoe (fertility), wassail, celibate priests, purgatory, and Mariolatry, all trace their origins to pagan Rome, a thin veneer over the Babylonian system (see Revelation 17:15-18).



# The Church of Pergamum Begins in Babylon

## Prophetic Profile

### Babylonian Roots

It was Nimrod who founded the original Babylonian religion. It was virtually identical to Phaethon – or Aesculapius – eventually developing into the worship of his widow Semiramis and his posthumous son: (the following are the Latin or Greek labels of the original Chaldean)

Semiramis	and	Tammuz of Babylon
Ashtoreth	and	Tammuz of Phoenicia
Isis	and	Horus of Egypt
Aphrodite	and	Eros of Greece
Venus	and	Cupid of Rome

- Alexander Hislop

When Cyrus conquered Babylon, the Babylonian priesthood and their initiates fled and set up shop in Pergamum. As the centroid of power ultimately shifted to Rome, the same religious system adopted Latin labels and formed the foundation for pagan Rome.

# **The Church of Pergamum Begins in Babylon**

## **Prophetic Profile**

### **Pontifex Maximus**

When Cyrus conquered Babylon, they founded a new center at Pergamum and that king became Pontifex Maximus, the high priest of that pagan system. There is a subsequent transfer of the cult from Pergamum to Rome with the appointment of successive Caesars as high priest. By AD 378 Damasus, the Bishop of Rome, completed the absorption of Babylonianism into the Roman Catholic Church. From the fall of Rome splitting into its pieces the pagan government and pagan religion of the Roman Catholic Church spread throughout the world.

The world that has not removed the pagan Roman governmental laws of the 12 tables and the religious culture are still under Roman rule.

# **The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World**

## **History of Rome**

<b>753 BC</b>	<b>Rome was founded</b>
<b>343-272 BC</b>	<b>Subdued Italy</b>
<b>264-146 BC</b>	<b>Conquered Carthage</b>
<b>133-31 BC</b>	<b>Spain, Gaul, Briton, Teutons</b>
<b>63 BC</b>	<b>Conquered Judea</b>

In its zenith, it appeared from the Atlantic to Euphrates and from the North Sea to the African Desert. The population was estimated about 120 million.

# **The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World**

## **History of Rome**

### **Caesar Worship**

Augustus inaugurated emperor worship in order to give the empire a bond of common sentiment. Although not the seat of imperial and judicial authorities, Pergamum became the center of the official religion of emperor worship. The first of this cult was erected at Pergamum in 27 BC. Under Vespasian and his successors, it became a test of one's loyalty if one would or would not offer incense to the status of the emperor.

# The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World

## History of Rome

### The Rise to the Zenith

- |                 |                        |  |
|-----------------|------------------------|--|
| ➤ 46-44 BC      | Julius Caesar          |  |
| ➤ 31 BC – AD 14 | Augustus               | Christ was born in his reign                             |
| ➤ 14-37 AD      | Tiberius               | Christ crucified in his reign                            |
| ➤ 37-41 AD      | Caligula               | Unsuccessful attempt at desecration of the Temple        |
| ➤ 41-54 AD      | Claudius               |  |
| ➤ 54-68 AD      | Nero                   | Blamed his burning of Rome on Christians; executed Paul  |
| ➤ 68-69 AD      | Galba, Otho, Vitellius |  |
| ➤ 69-79 AD      | Vespasian              | Titus destroyed Jerusalem (70 AD)                        |
| ➤ 79-81 AD      | Tyrus                  |  |
| ➤ 81-96 AD      | Domitian               | Most violent; thousands slain; John banished to Patmos   |
| ➤ 98-117 AD     | Trajan                 | Sought to uphold the laws; Christianity regarded illegal |
| ➤ 117-138 AD    | Hadrian                |  |
| ➤ 138-161 AD    | Antonius Plus          | Bar Kochba revolt; Aelia Capitolina replaces Jerusalem   |
| ➤ 161-180 AD    | Marcus Aurelius        | Severest since Nero; Peak of Roman Power                 |

# The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World

## History of Rome

### Decline and Fall

- 180-192 AD Commodus
- 192-284 AD Barrack Emperors Appointed by army. Civil War.
- 193-211 AD Septimius Severus
- 218-222 AD Caracalla Tolerated Christianity
- 218-222 AD Elagabalus Tolerated Christianity
- 222-235 AD Alexander Severus Favorable to Christianity
- 235-238 AD Maximinus
- 244-249 AD Phillips Very Favorable to Christianity
- 249-251 AD Decius Persecuted Christians
- 253-260 AD Valerian Killed Origen
- 260-268 AD Galienus Favored Christians
- 270-275 AD Aurelian
- 284-305 AD Diocletian Persecuted Christians most out of all. Systemically attempted to abolish all by tortuous death

# The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World

## History of Rome

### Constantine

In 312 AD, Constantine set out to defeat the forces of Maxentius, his rival, for supreme power in the empire. His father had prospered when he had prayed to the God of the Christians, and Constantine, in his extremity, resorted to the same action. It is said that on the next day he saw a shining cross in the sky with an inscription above it: in soc sigma vinces which means 'In this sign thou shalt conquer.'" He defeated Maxentius at the Milvan bridge, and immediately declared his conversion to Christianity. (Scholars argue about the topic and there are many conjectures.)

In 325 AD, Constantine issued the Edict of Toleration which established freedom of religion; it was no longer illegal to be a Christian; he favored Christians at court; exempted Christians ministers from taxes; and issued a general exhortation to all his subjects to become Christians.

# **The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World**

## **History of Rome**

### **Constantine**

In 330 AD, he moved the capital of the empire from Rome to Byzantium, calling it Constantinople (later renamed Istanbul by Muslims).

Constantine also ceased the gladiatorial fights; reduced the killing of unwelcome children; abolished crucifixion as a form of execution; repealed the persecution edicts of his predecessor Diocletian; assumed headship of the church; advanced Christians to high offices; declared Sunday a day of worship (forbade work on Sunday); and reduced slavery.



# The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World

## History of Rome

### Marriage of Church and World is Consummated

- 361-363 AD      Julian                      The Apostate sought to restore paganism
- 363-364 AD      Jovian                      Reestablished the Christian religion
- 378-395 AD      Theodosius                Made Christianity the state religion. This caused forced conversions and suddenly the churches were filled with unregenerate people who had an ambition to rule. Consequently, there was a commingling of Christianity and paganism that was operative throughout the culture. This is regarded by most scholars as the marriage between church and the world.

# The Church of Pergamum to Rome to the World

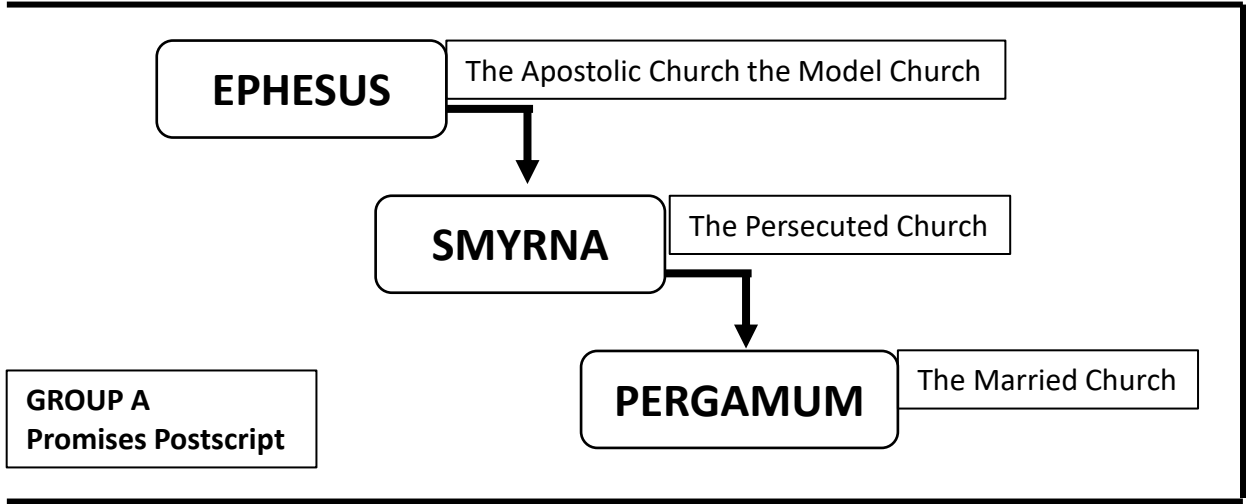
## History of Rome

### It Was a Perverted Marriage

- Heathenism was Christianized by pagan temples became Christian churches and heathen festivals were converted into Christian ones.
- Pagan priests slipped into office as Christian priests.
- Change was mostly nomenclature by giving Christian names to previous practices.
- What persecution didn't accomplish in Smyrna, was accomplished by a marriage to the world. Satan changed his strategy. The underground Christians exchanged the rags of oppression for the silks of the court.

	<b>Ephesus</b>	<b>Smyrna</b>	<b>Pergamos</b>	<b>Thyatira</b>	<b>Sardis</b>	<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>Laodicea</b>
Name of the Church	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Title of Christ Chosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Commendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Concern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Exhortation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Promise to the Overcomer	<b>PS</b>	<b>PS</b>	<b>PS</b>				
“He that hath an ear what the Spirit says to the churches”	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

PS – Means that the Promise to the Overcomer was made after the body of the letter.



# Study Assignment

- Always pray first before asking to open your minds to God's reveal for you
- Have a relationship with the Author of everything – Jesus Christ
- Set aside your personal presuppositions
- Take good notes
- Start and Continue to update your personal private journal
- Read the book of Revelation each week
- Read the chapters 2 and 3.
- Download the Word Doc handout and outline the Church of Thyatira.
- From the Handout Outline the Church of Ephesus.