

SESSION 20

REVELATION

2:12–17

(DOCTRINAL APPLICATION, PART 1)

THE LAST SESSION IN 10 TWEETS

1. One of the key heresies being propagated in the Smyrna Period (200–325A.D.) was Gnosticism. #WordStrong
2. The word “Gnostic” comes from the word “gnosis,” which means “to KNOW” or “KNOWLEDGE.” #WordStrong
3. A Gnostic was one who claimed to have a higher plane of LEARNING, or the ability “to KNOW” more than the common man could know. #WordStrong
4. Beware of a 21st c. “Neo-Gnosticism” that thru education and scholarship takes biblical interpretation from the common man. #WordStrong
5. Some of the Ante-Nicene Church Fathers (Irenaeus, Cyprian, Hippolytus) began to write against the heresies of Gnosticism. #WordStrong
6. Some of the things these men wrote against Gnosticism became the very things Satan used to more fully develop his false church! #WordStrong
7. It is a classic case of violating the old adage: Don’t knock over the mop bucket trying to clean up the mess! #WordStrong
8. Satan uses these “good, godly men” to create what his counterfeit Church will refer to as “Tradition” thru the centuries. #WordStrong
9. Essentially, these men are responsible for heresies like the Pope, apostolic succession, salvation thru the church/communion. #WordStrong
10. The Ante-Nicene Fathers are also responsible for the exaltation of Mary, the Roman Church and the office of the “Priest.” #WordStrong

1. COMMISSION. (Rev. 2:12a)

“And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write:”

◆ The city of Pergamos (The Historical Application)...

- Pergamos was the _____ city of the Roman government in Asia.

THE ORIGIN OF SATAN’S FALSE SYSTEM OF RELIGION (The Religion of the Tower of Babel) Genesis 10 and 11

◆ The “MAN” Connected to the Tower of Babel..._____!

◆ The “WOMAN” Connected to the Tower of Babel..._____!

- After Nimrod’s death, Semiramis begins to claim that Nimrod had actually become the ____ ____.
- She claimed that she had miraculously conceived by a ____ ____.
(A counterfeit “_____” birth.)
- She gave birth to a son whose name was _____.
* Note: His birthday was _____!
- She claimed that Tammuz was supposedly Nimrod come back to _____.
(A counterfeit “_____.”)
- In the Tower of Babel religion, not only was the _____ worshipped— it also included the worship of the _____.

* Note: Keep in mind that as a result of the Tower of Babel rebellion, God _____ the people all over the earth, and also _____ their language.

- In _____, the mother goddess was SHINGMOO.
 - In _____, she was the “virgin” HERTHA.
 - In _____, she was known as INDRANI.
 - In _____, she was known as ISHTAR.
 - In _____, she was known as DIANNA.
 - In _____, she was ISIS, and her son OSIRIS.
 - In _____, she was APHRODITE, and her son EROS.
 - In _____, she was ASHTAR, and her son BAAL.
 - In _____, she was VENUS, and her son JUPITER (CUPID).
- Paganism in the first three centuries of the Roman Empire was nothing more than the Roman expression of the _____ of _____ religion.

* Note: The ecclesiastical structure of Paganism included:

- A pagan Roman _____.
- A pagan Roman _____.
- Pagan Roman Imperial _____.
- Pagan Provincial _____.
- Pagan Roman _____.
- Pagan Roman Vestal _____.

THE MARRIAGE OF SATAN’S “WOMAN” TO CHRISTIANITY IN THE PERGAMOS PERIOD

* Satan’s desire for a counterfeit church...

* Satan’s greatest stroke of “genius”...

* The great “Christianization” of Paganism...

- * The pagan Roman EMPEROR becomes the _____.
- * The pagan Roman SENATE becomes the _____ of _____.
- * The Pagan Roman Imperial GOVERNORS become the _____.
- * The Pagan Provincial GOVERNORS become the _____.
- * The Pagan Roman CIVITAS become the _____.
- * The Pagan Roman Vestal VIRGINS become the _____.

- The “Edict of the Emperors Gratian, Valentinian II and Theodosius I” was passed in 380 A.D. saying this, *“We order those who follow this doctrine to receive the title of _____ Christians, but others we judge to be mad and raving...nor are their assemblies to receive the name of churches. They are to be punished not only by Divine retribution but also by our _____ measures...”*

Sidney Z. Ehler and John B. Morrall, *Church and State Through The Centuries: A Collection of Historic Documents With Commentaries*, (London: 1954), 7. Cited by *The Berean Call*, Oct. 1994, 1.

- Historian Will Durant writes...
“Compared with the persecution of heresy [by the Roman Catholic Church]...the persecution of Christians by [pagan] Romans...was a _____ and _____ procedure.”

Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization*, vol. IV, 784.

- Roman Catholic historian Peter de Rosa admits in his book *Vicars of Christ*, that Catholicism became...
“...the most _____ faith the world has ever seen... [Pope] Innocent III murdered far more Christians in one _____... Than any Roman emperor did in his entire reign.”

Peter de Rosa, *Vicars of Christ* (Crown Publishers, 1988), 35, and jacket.