

# SESSION 22

# REVELATION

# 2:12–17

## (DOCTRINAL APPLICATION, PART 3)

### THE LAST SESSION IN 10 TWEETS

1. In the Pergamos Church Period, PAGAN Rome became PAPAL Rome. #WordStrong
2. In the Pergamos Church Period, the pagan Roman hierarchal system became the papal Roman hierarchal system. #WordStrong
3. In the Pergamos Church Period, the worship of the pagan mother goddess from Babel became the worship of Mary. #WordStrong
4. In the Pergamos Church Period, the celebration of the pagan Roman holidays became papal Rome's celebrations. #WordStrong
5. In the Pergamos Church Period, the prayers to the pagan Roman gods (idols) became the prayers to the Saints in papal Rome. #WordStrong
6. In the Pergamos Church Period, Satan takes his "SEAT" over the Babylonian religion and moves it to ROME. #WordStrong
7. In the Pergamos Church Period, Satan changed from operating as a "roaring lion," to an "angel of light." #WordStrong
8. This Period of church history could be called the "Christianization" of Paganism, or the "Paganization" of Christianity. #WordStrong
9. During the Pergamos Church Period, the true church didn't cease to exist. God ALWAYS has His REMNANT! #WordStrong
10. Our brethren in the Pergamos Period loved God and His Word more than they loved unity...themselves...and even their own life! #WordStrong

4. CONDEMNATION (Rev. 2:14–15)

*“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. <sup>15</sup> So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.”*

◆ **“The Doctrine of Balaam”** (Rev. 2:14)

- It has to do with two key things:
  - ★ Eating things sacrificed to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ★ Committing \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Historical Application (90 A.D. in the city of Pergamos) —
  
- The Prophetic Application (325–500 A.D. in the Pergamos church period.) —
  - ★ Understanding when Balaam taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel in Numbers 22–25.
    - The children of Israel have come into the plains of \_\_\_\_\_.
    - The king of Moab is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - He’s nervous because he knows what the children of Israel have done to the \_\_\_\_\_.
    - He tries to bribe one of the prophets, a man named \_\_\_\_\_.
    - Balac wants Balaam to \_\_\_\_\_ the children of Israel so they are unable to come against \_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2 Peter 2:15 says that Balaam “...loved the \_\_\_\_\_ of unrighteousness.”
    - He makes several attempts to \_\_\_\_\_ the children of Israel, but every time he opens his mouth, it comes out a \_\_\_\_\_.
    - He finally figures out that the only way the children of Israel will be cursed, is for \_\_\_\_\_ to do it!
    - Though the Book of Numbers doesn’t record the actual conversation, we know from what happened that Balaam taught Balac that if the women of Moab could seduce the men of Israel to commit fornication with them, he wouldn’t have to worry about \_\_\_\_\_ them! \_\_\_\_\_ would!!!
    - Balac’s strategy:
  
  - The result:
    - Numbers 25:1–5–
  
    - Numbers 25:9– *“And those that died in the plague were \_\_\_\_\_.”*
- ★ In Rev. 2:14, the Lord lets us know that the same thing that happened back in Num. 22–25 with Balac and the people of God, happened again in the \_\_\_\_\_ church period.
  - The devil’s inability to “curse” the children of God in the Ephesus and Smyrna church period...
  
  - His new strategy under Constantine in the Pergamos period...

- By the time you get out of the Pergamos church period, a doctrine is being taught by the Roman “Catholic” church...that you receive Christ by something you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Cor. 10:7)
- The Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. 4, page 277, Article: “Consecration” explains it this way...  
*“In the celebration of the Holy Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ. It is called transubstantiation, for in the Sacrament of the Eucharist the substance of bread and wine do not remain, but the entire substance of bread is changed into the body of Christ, and the entire substance of wine is changed into His blood, the species or outward semblance of bread and wine alone remaining.”*
- **Has Rome changed its position?**  
–Various articles from the new Catechism of the Catholic Church:
  - **Article 1414—**  
As sacrifice, the Eucharist is also offered in reparation for the sins of the living and the dead and to obtain spiritual or temporal benefits from God.
  - **Article 1365—**  
Because it is the memorial of Christ’s Passover, the Eucharist is also a sacrifice... In the Eucharist Christ gives us the very body which he gave up for us on the cross, the very blood which he “poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.”
  - **Article 1367—**  
The sacrifice of Christ and the sacrifice of the Eucharist are one single sacrifice... “In this divine sacrifice which is celebrated in the Mass, the same Christ who offered himself once in a bloody manner on the altar of the cross is contained and offered in an unbloody manner.”
  - **Article 1376—**  
The Council of Trent summarizes the Catholic faith by declaring “...by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation.”
  - **Article 1413—**  
By the consecration the transubstantiation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ is brought about. Under the consecrated species of bread and wine Christ himself, living and glorious, is present in a true, real and substantial manner; his Body and his Blood, with his soul and his divinity (c.f. Council of Trent: DS 1640; 1657).
  - **Article 1374—**  
...In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist “the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained.”
  - **Article 1375—**  
It is by the conversion of the bread and wine into Christ’s body and blood that Christ becomes present in this sacrament... The priest, in the role of Christ, pronounces these words, but their power and grace are God’s. This is my body, he says. This word transforms the things offered... The power of the blessing prevails over that of nature, because by the blessing nature itself is changed.

- **Article 1370—**  
...In communion with and commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary and all the saints, the Church offers the Eucharist sacrifice.
- **Article 1418—**  
Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar he is to be honoured with the worship of adoration.
- **Article 1378—**  
Worship of the Eucharist. In the liturgy of the Mass we express our faith in the real presence of Christ under the species of bread and wine by, among other ways, genuflecting or bowing deeply as a sign of adoration of the Lord...reserving the consecrated hosts with the utmost care, exposing them to the solemn veneration of the faithful, and carrying them in procession.

- ★ In Rev. 2:14, the Lord calls this “sacrifice” they are eating “\_\_\_\_\_”, and that it has caused some to commit spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

◆ **“The Doctrine of Nicolaitanes”** (Rev. 2:15)

- This is the establishment of a \_\_\_\_\_ class over the \_\_\_\_\_ man
- “Nicolaitanes” is a transliteration of two words:
  - Nico = \_\_\_\_\_
  - Laitanes = \_\_\_\_\_
- In the Ephesus church period (Rev. 2:6), it was a \_\_\_\_\_...  
And the people in that period \_\_\_\_\_ it! (Along with Jesus!)
- In the Pergamos church period, what had been a sporadic act, has settled down into the church as an established and accepted \_\_\_\_\_.

5. **COUNSEL** (Rev. 2:16)

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

- ◆ The graciousness of the harsh sounding statement...
- ◆ If these people in the Pergamos church period had heeded the Lord’s counsel in verse 16, and repented, the whole \_\_\_\_\_, with all of its evil, and bloodshed and death could have been \_\_\_\_\_.

6. **CHALLENGE** (Rev. 2:17)

*“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.”*

- ◆ The “hidden manna”— (Obviously a contrast with what the people were \_\_\_\_\_ in verse 14!)
  - Ex. 16:32–34–
  - John 6:48–51–
- ◆ The “white stone”—
  - A possibility...