**The Book of**

 **Revelation**

Lesson Number Five

 **“Walk Through the Bible” Series**

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**Message to the Pastor at Pergamum**

Pergamos was a town in Mysia on the river Caicus about 50 miles north of Smyrna.

**Revelation 2:12-17 (NLT)**

12 “Write this letter to the angel of the church in Pergamum. This is the message from the one with the sharp two-edged sword: 13 “I know that you live in the city where Satan has his throne, yet you have remained loyal to me. You refused to deny me even when Antipas, my faithful witness, was martyred among you there in Satan’s city. 14 “But I have a few complaints against you. You tolerate some among you whose teaching is like that of Balaam, who showed Balak how to trip up the people of Israel. He taught them to sin by eating food offered to idols and by committing sexual sin. 15 In a similar way, you have some Nicolaitans among you who follow the same teaching. 16 Repent of your sin, or I will come to you suddenly and fight against them with the sword of my mouth. 17 “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches. To everyone who is victorious I will give some of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it.

In each of the seven letters, Jesus gives a description of Himself.

In the letter to the pastor of the Church at Ephesus - the one who holds the **seven stars** in his right hand, the one who walks among the seven gold lamp stands.

In the letter to the pastor of the Church at Smyrna - the one who is the First and the **Last**, who was dead but is now alive.

In the letter to the pastor of the Church at Pergamum (Pergamos) - the one with the **sharp** two-edged **sword**.

They lived in the city where Satan had his throne but they remained faithful, even when **Antipas** was martyred.

God has a special place reserved for those who give their lives for Christ’s sake (martyrs).

**Revelation 6:9-11 (NLT)**

9 When the Lamb broke the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of all who had been martyred for the word of God and for being faithful in their testimony. 10 They shouted to the Lord and said, “O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you judge the people who belong to this world and avenge our blood for what they have done to us?” 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them. And they were told to rest a little longer until the full number of their brothers and sisters—their fellow servants of Jesus who were to be martyred—had joined them.

This is talking specifically about those who are martyred after the resurrection and before the 2nd coming of Jesus Christ (Rev 4-19).

Since Christ was here, over **70 million** Christians have been martyred and over half of those were murdered JUST in the 20th century.

**Men Conscious in Three Realms**

1. In heaven (Rev. 4:3; 6:9-11; 12:12; 13:6; Heb. 12:23; 2Cor. 5:8).

2. In earth (Rev. 4:3; 12:12; 13:14).

3. Under the earth. Greek: *hupokato* (GSN-<G5270>), beneath; below; underneath. Translated "under" (Rev. 4:3; 6:9; 12:1; Mk. 6:11; 7:28; Lk. 8:16; Jn. 1:50; Heb. 2:8). All the wicked go to hell underneath the earth at the time of physical death and are fully conscious (Rev. 4:3; 20:11-15; Lk. 16:19-31; Isa. 14:9; Dt. 32:22; Ps. 9:17; 18:5; 116:3; Prov. 15:24).
Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text.

**Three things commended of Pergamos:**

1. Their **Works**

2. Holding fast to Christ's name

3. Not denying the **faith**

**Four things condemned in Pergamos:**

1. Holding the doctrine of **Balaam**

2. Eating things sacrificed to idols

3. Committing **fornication**

4. Holding the doctrine of Nicolaitans

**The Doctrine of Balaam**

**2 Peter 2:15 (NLT)**

15 They have wandered off the right road and followed the footsteps of Balaam son of Beor, who loved to earn money by doing wrong.

**Three great sins of Balaam (Num. 22:1 -- Num. 24:25):**

1. The way of Balaam (2Pet. 2:15). This was the love of the **wages** of unrighteousness and coveting the gifts of Balak (2Pet. 2:15; Num. 22:7,17,37; 24:11).

2. The error of Balaam (Jude 1:11). This was accepting the wages of unrighteousness for his services in giving the secret of how to get God to curse Israel (Jude 1:11; 2Pet. 2:15; Num. 31:8,16).

3. The doctrine of Balaam (Rev. 2:14). This was to teach Balak that if he would give his most beautiful women to the Israelite men and cause them to commit idolatry and adultery that God Himself would curse Israel (Num. 25:1-9; 21:8,16).

Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text.

**Gordon Robertson’s Story on Pergammaum**

[**http://www.cbn.com/700club/features/churchhistory/pergamon/**](http://www.cbn.com/700club/features/churchhistory/pergamon/)

**3d Reconstruction of Pergamon**

[**http://www.pergamon.secondpage.de/index\_en.html**](http://www.pergamon.secondpage.de/index_en.html)

Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea