

“Satisfaction, Identity, and Intimacy in Christ Alone”

Rev. 2:12-17

Intro: Maslow’s “Hierarchy of Needs” is a theory of human motivation based on five needs: physiological, safety, love & belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization. When Christians seek to fulfill those outside of Christ, compromise—or worse—sets in.

I. Faith within Satan’s city

- a. Pergamum was a city of idols and pagan worship
- b. The church remained faithful to Jesus

II. Seeds of compromise

- a. Some in the church were following false teachings
- b. Balaam:
 - i. Food sacrificed to idols
 - ii. Sexual immorality
- c. Nicolaitans: the “it’s-okay”-itans

“But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people.” Ephesians 5:3

III. Therefore, repent! Or face the sword

- a. From the Old Testament prophets till Jesus’ return
- b. Not the executioner’s sword but the Word of God

IV. Mysterious rewards

- a. Hidden manna
- b. A white stone with a new name

Close: To return to Christ (repent!) is the only way to repel and resist compromise in the church. We are to find our satisfaction, identity, and intimacy in Christ alone.