

REVELATION 19 – PERGAMUM: CHIP OF CHRIST'S ROCK

Dr. Leon L. Sanders Revelation 2:16-17

PROLOGUE – BALAAM EFFECT: NICOLAITAN'S PHILOSOPHY

- Balaam's methodology does not work in a vacuum; it is legitimized by worldly wisdom according to sin's elemental foundations (Ro 1:18-28; Ep 4:11-14; 6:12; Col 2:8; Re 19:15)
- Nicolaitan's Gnosticism, *Neo-Platonism's One*, later augmented by *Aristotelian's Many*, promoted liberal-social equality due to ongoing nation-church wars
 - Women deceived to believe their social changes bring <u>good</u> though they promote <u>evil</u> evidenced by disintegration of families, churches and nations: Remain guided by Men
- Balaam's and Nicolaitan's Teachings conflate Sin's evil for God's good: To make children of Hell and eliminate Gospel believers (Is 5:20-21; Mic 3:1-3; Mt 23:13-15, 29-35; Ro 3:8)
 - Modern social movements promote same goal: Globalism which Men control but Women are the face for change {Ecology; Fossil fuels; Climate change; Population control; Abortion; Critical Theories; CBDC; etc.}:Where this abounds, Satan dwells!

REPENT! OR BE FOUND WANTING! (DA 5:27)

- Therefore: Signifies the <u>conclusion</u> of a logic-legal argument (Is 1:18; IPe 3:15)
 - Whereas: Some of the <u>church</u> follow the *Teachings of Balaam* {Balaam Effect}
 - Whereas: Some of the <u>church</u> follow the Nicolaitans {Gnosticism}
 - Therefore: Repent <u>or</u> Defend <u>your</u> errors against Scripture {Those in the church}
- Sword of His Mouth Holy Spirit empowers Christ's Words-Scripture (Jn 16:12-14)
 - Gospels: Christ only used Scripture to defeat the erroneous logic of the Pharisees and Sadducees (Mt 19:4; Mk 12:10; Lk 6:3)
 - Acts: Apostles, and others {Stephen}, used Scripture; Spirit persuades people (Ac 2:14-38; 7)

REPENT! WHAT IS REPENTANCE?

- Repentance is much used but seldom defined becoming a *muddied* concept
- Old Testament: Changing one's mind when confronted with God's holiness in sorrow when realizing one's sinfulness; hence, reasoning together – Work of Christ-Spirit (Is 1:18; 6:1-5; Ac 9:3-8, 17-20)
- New Testament: Whereas previously there was no grasp of radical remaking
 - New Covenant is the radical remaking of each believer; indwelling Christ-Spirit (Ro 8:9-11; 2Co 5:17; Col 1:24-27)
 - Repentance: 180° turn from the old to the new man {New Covenant} (Ro 6:6, 19-23; Col 3:9-10)
 - <u>Therefore</u>, in Christ one is <u>being</u> a *new* creation; the *old* is <u>going</u> {Logic Conclusion} (2Co 5:17)

HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR: REPENTED {CONQUERED}

- Who has an ear to hear what the Spirit says? Repent for you still sin (1Jo 1:8-10)
- How does one conquer? Humility in Christ who will use His Word to hold Lost accountable: All Saved will receive {According to their growth} (Ps 18:2; Mt 5:2-12; 25:14-30)
 - Hidden Manna: Christ who is bread of life rejected, and thus unseen, by the Lost but embraced by the repentant, maturing Saved (In 6:48-51; ICo 2:7-10 Col 1:26)
 - White Stone: Christ is the Rock of our Salvation; hence, we are in Him and little rocks, smaller than Peter, who are being built into a *living* eternal Temple (Ps 18:2; Mt 16:17-18; IPe 2:4-10)
 - New Name: We will be completed <u>new</u> creations in Him leaving behind our <u>old</u> name and <u>old</u> sin nature – **New Creations** for **New Creation** {Explained by this Vision}

NEW NAME: NEW INTIMACY

- Biblical marriage metaphor of intimacy between man and woman to produce godly progeny (Ep 5:22-6:4)
 - This metaphor represents the spiritual intimacy, often unrealized, between Christ and believers <u>now</u>
- You cannot enter New Creation unless **you** are this *new* stone of Christ; shaped according to His purposes to fit in His Temple {Hagiazo} (Mt 22:1-14)
 - Lost who are shifting sands seek to mimic these stones; however, sandstone crumbles under pressure while granite {Christ} {Primal} shine forth as genuine (Mt 7:24-27)
- Do you discern Balaam's Effect in you? During your Hagiazo process are you repenting or resisting? More importantly: Are you of granite or sandstone?