

# *A Study of the End Times!*

*The Revelation of Jesus Christ*



# **Our Approach to the Book of Revelation!**

**The Outline is revealed in Revelation 1:19:**

**Chapter One / The Past**

**The Things Which Were!**

**Chapters Two and Three / The Present**

**The Things Which Are!**

**Chapters Four through Twenty-Two / The Future**

**The Things Which Must Take Place!**

# **This Morning's Journey Through the Book of Revelation**

**The Text:**

**Revelation 2:12-17!**

**The Title:**

**Our Lord's Message to the Church: Then and Now!**

**The Theme:**

**The Revealing of Things  
Which Must Shortly Take Place!**

# I. (1:1-20) Focus is Past: Write the Things You Have Seen!

## A. (1:1-11) The CIRCUMSTANCES of the Vision!

Focus: What John Heard.



I. (1:1-20) Focus is Past: Write the Things You Have Seen!

B. (1:12-16) The **CONTENT** of the Vision!

Focus: What John Saw.



# I. (1:1-20) Focus is Past: Write the Things You Have Seen!

## B. (1:17-20) The **CONSEQUENCES** of the Vision!

Focus: What John Did.



## II. (2:1-3:22) Focus is Present: Write The Things Which Are!

### A. (2:1-7) The Church at EPHESUS: The **LACKING** Church!



## II. (2:1-3:22) Focus is Present: Write The Things Which Are!

### A. (2:8-11) The Church at SMYRNA: The LOYAL Church!





## II. (2:1-3:22) Focus is Present: Write The Things Which Are!

### A. (2:12-17) The Church at PERGAMUM: The **LICENTIOUS** Church!



# Overview of the Seven Churches!



4. (2:18-29) The Church at **Thyatira**: The **Lax** Church.

They follow the woman Jezebel!

5. (3:1-6) The Church at **Sardis**: The **Lifeless** Church.

They are considered spiritually dead!

6. (3:7-13) The Church at **Philadelphia**: The **Loving** Church.

They are comforted by Christ!

7. (3:14-22) The Church at **Laodicea**: The **Lukewarm** Church.

They make Christ sick!

# The Overview of Today's Sermon Outline!

## Six Point Outline:

II. (2:1-3:22) Write: The Things Which Are / **Present!**

A. (2:1-7) The Letter to the Church at **Ephesus**.

B. (2:8-11) The Letter to the Church at **Smyrna**.

C. (2:12-17) The Letter to the Church at **Pergamum**:

1. (2:12a) The **Assembly** is located at Pergamum.



# **Biblical Warnings Against Worldliness!**

**John 15:18-19**

**If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it has hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world ... the world hates you.**

**Romans 12:2**

**Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.**

**James 4:4**

**You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility towards God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.**

# **Biblical Warnings Against Worldliness!**

**I John 2:15-17**

**Do not love the world, nor the things of the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God abides forever.**

# The Overview of Today's Sermon Outline!

II. (2:1-3:22) Write: The Things Which Are / **Present!**

A. (2:1-7) The Letter Addressed to the Church at **Ephesus**.

B. (2:8-11) The Letter Addressed to the Church at **Smyrna**.

C. (2:12-17) The Letter to the Church at **Pergamum**:

1. (2:12a) The **Assembly** is located at Pergamum.

2. (2:12b) The **Author** of the letter is the Lord.

3. (2:13) The **Approval** is for their faithfulness.

4. (2:14-15) The **Admonition** is for their failure.

5. (2:16) The **Appeal** is to repent.

6. (2:17) The **Action** that is expected.

# Principles from Today's Lesson!

**Question: How can we keep ourselves free from worldly compromise?**

**Answer: By applying the lessons learned today!**

## **1. Compromise Never Comes Quickly!**

**It is not designed to shock, but rather to sway, or coax, or lure us into improper behavior. It begins with a second glance, which leads to a flirtation, which is followed by a touch, then finally and fatally to unfaithfulness. Here Jesus is commanding us to stop glancing over our shoulders at sin and keep God's standard of truth in clear view so that we can be a useful testimony of God's love and grace.**

# Principles from Today's Lesson!

**Question: How can we keep ourselves free from worldly compromise?**

**Answer: By applying the lessons learned today!**

## **2. Compromise Always Lowers the Original Standard!**

**It is a counterfeit that is designed to lower the standard so that you will not receive the best that God has for you.**

**It never uplifts, only debases! It never enhances morality, it only seeks to redefine what is considered good!**

**Here Jesus warns us to watch out for concessions to biblical standards. They inevitably lead to sin and guilt.**





# Principles From Today's Lesson!

Question: How can we keep ourselves free from worldly compromise?

Answer: By applying the lessons learned today!

## **3. Compromise is the first step towards disobedience!**

It is a slippery slope. And once you start to slide its extremely difficult and next to impossible to stop. It will lead you down the path of destruction and away from the God who loves you. If you are already trapped by the temptation to compromise, it is only with God's help and a repentant heart, that compromise can be stopped in its tracks. If you are being challenged to compromise ask God to show you the way out. Then be obedient to what He is telling you to do. Study to show yourself a workmen who is not ashamed.

I find it interesting that Jesus' words to the church in chapters 2 and 3 begin with praise and then end with criticism, for it mirrors how we so often respond to Him. As new believers our words begin with praise and are filled with excitement. But as we grow older we often find fault and begin to look for reasons to criticize Him. How does this happen? Slowly through compromise!