

Pergamum: Good Deeds, Bad Doctrine
Revelation 2: 12-17
Rev. John Anderson
Bay Presbyterian Church
October 28, 2012

Introduction: Bergama, Turkey, an archeologists delight
Population today 55,000 but in the 1st century 155,000
Original name: Pergamum, a city of wealth and influence
Polytheism with Emperor worship, Zeus, Archeleus, Dionysus
Persecution rampant
Bergama is not the city of Pergamum

- I. On the Plus Side
 - a. The angel of the church of Pergamum
 - i. The church belongs to God
 - ii. The church is under God's care and watchful eye
 - b. Positive message to the church
 - i. I know that you live where Satan has his throne
 - ii. You do well to remain faithful when things are tough around you
 - iii. Antipas was a faithful servant
- II. On the Minus Side
 - a. Doctrine = Belief system/world view –
 - b. what you believe determines how you live
 - c. Church at Pergamum not careful with their belief system and allowed cultural practices that were abhorrent to God (Numbers 22 & 23)
 - d. Jesus message is Repent!
- III. Bread and Stones
 - a. Hidden manna – God will take care of you in ways you can't see and don't expect
 - b. White Stone – some variations.
 - i. Ticket to the amphitheater
 - ii. Judicial system – black stone = guilt white stone= acquittal
 - iii. A new name
- IV. Take Away
 - a. Believe the Good News (Romans 3: 21, 22)
 - b. Be wary of idolatry
 - c. Know what you believe