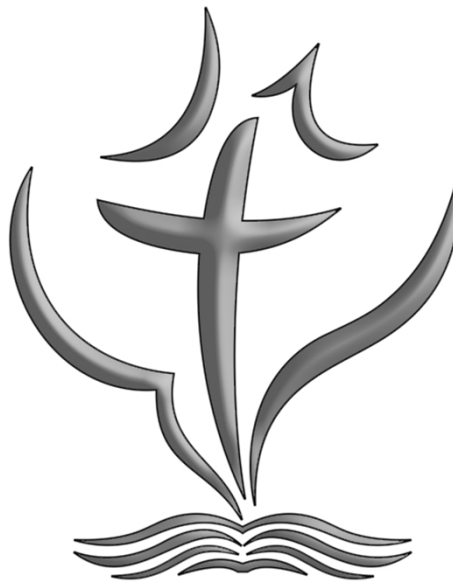


**Welcome to Calvary Chapel  
of  
Northern Kentucky**



# Introduction

## *Key Verse*

### *Revelation 1:1*

*The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants--things which must shortly take place.*

# **Introduction – Helpful Outline**

- **1-3 – Exalted Priest-King, ministering to the churches.**  
(Church is not mentioned again until chapter 19.)
- **4-5 – In heaven as the glorified Lamb of God on the throne**
- **6-18 – Judge of all the earth.**
- **19 – Conquering King of Kings**
- **20-22 – the Bride of Christ in the Millennial Kingdom and New Jerusalem**

# **Introduction – Helpful Outlines**

## **Ages**

- **Church Age – 1-3**
- **Tribulation Age – 4-19**
- **Kingdom Age – 20**
- **Eternal State – 21-22**

# Introduction

*The letters to the seven churches share a similar structure.*

- *An address to a particular congregation.*
- *An introduction of Jesus.*
- *A statement regarding the condition of the church.*
  - *In two churches there is no commendation – Sardis and Laodicea;*
- *A verdict from Jesus regarding the condition of the church.*
  - *In two churches there is no correction – Smyrna and Philadelphia*
- *A command from Jesus to the church.*
- *A general exhortation to all Christians.*
- *A promise of reward.*

# 7 Churches of Revelation, Rome and Israel



# **Revelation 2:12-17**

## **The Church of Pergamos: Be Overcomers**

# V12A Background on Pergamos

**Worshipped power**

**Highly Religious**

## **A Potent Combination**

*Religion has always had a precarious relationship to political power. When power is on the side of religion, it tends to corrupt it. But when power is against religion, it begins to persecute it. Unfortunately, the pressure of persecution often drives religion to seek power as a means of protection and self-preservation. In time, religion itself often falls victim to the very thing it opposes. It has been observed more than once that the ultimate subversion of Christianity occurs whenever we confuse spiritual authority with political power.*

*– Ed Hinson, Revelation: Unlocking the Future*



## **V12B Jesus Describes Himself**

### ***Sharp, two-edged sword – Revelation 1:16***

Comparison to Hebrews 4:12

- Heb 4:12 - machaira –a short, thrusting sword
- Rev 1:16 - rhomphaia – a long, broadsword, worn on the shoulder which could cleave a man from top to bottom.

# V12B Jesus Describes Himself

*Act 4:19-20*

*But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. "For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard."*

*Psalms 2:1-2*

*Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the LORD and against His Anointed,*

**V 13**

**Jesus Describes the  
Church of Pergamos**

**Vv 14-15 Jesus Describes the Problem**

*Doctrine of Balaam – Numbers 22-24, 31*

*Doctrine of Nicolaitans*

**V 16**

**Jesus Exhorts the  
Church of Pergamos**

**V17**

**A Promise of Reward**

# **Taking it Home**

## MEDITATION VERSE

*Revelation 2:17*

*"He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written which no one knows except him who receives [it]."*



# BENEDICTION

*2 Peter 1:2-4*

*Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that [pertain] to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption [that is] in the world through lust.*