


SUMMER IN THE SPIRIT



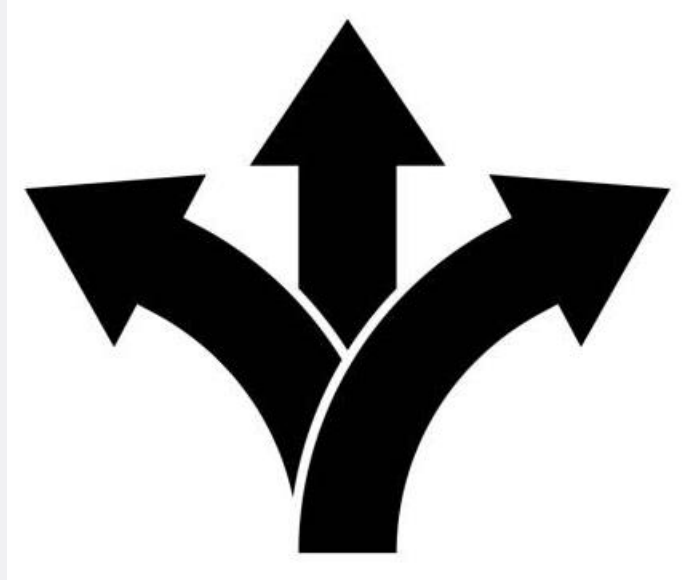
Revelation 2:12-17 / Church of Pergamum



**Whoever has ears,
let them hear what the Spirit
says to the churches.**

Revelations 3:13

**Why does it matter
what you & others
believe?**



**What you believe
determines how you behave
which controls what you become
and where you will be in the future.**

**People are not cursed by God.
God is for each of us through The Cross!**
(Galatians 3:13)

**People “curse” themselves by choosing
in a way to live that will never work
and ultimately traps & destroys them
and others in relationship with them.**
(Proverbs 14:12)

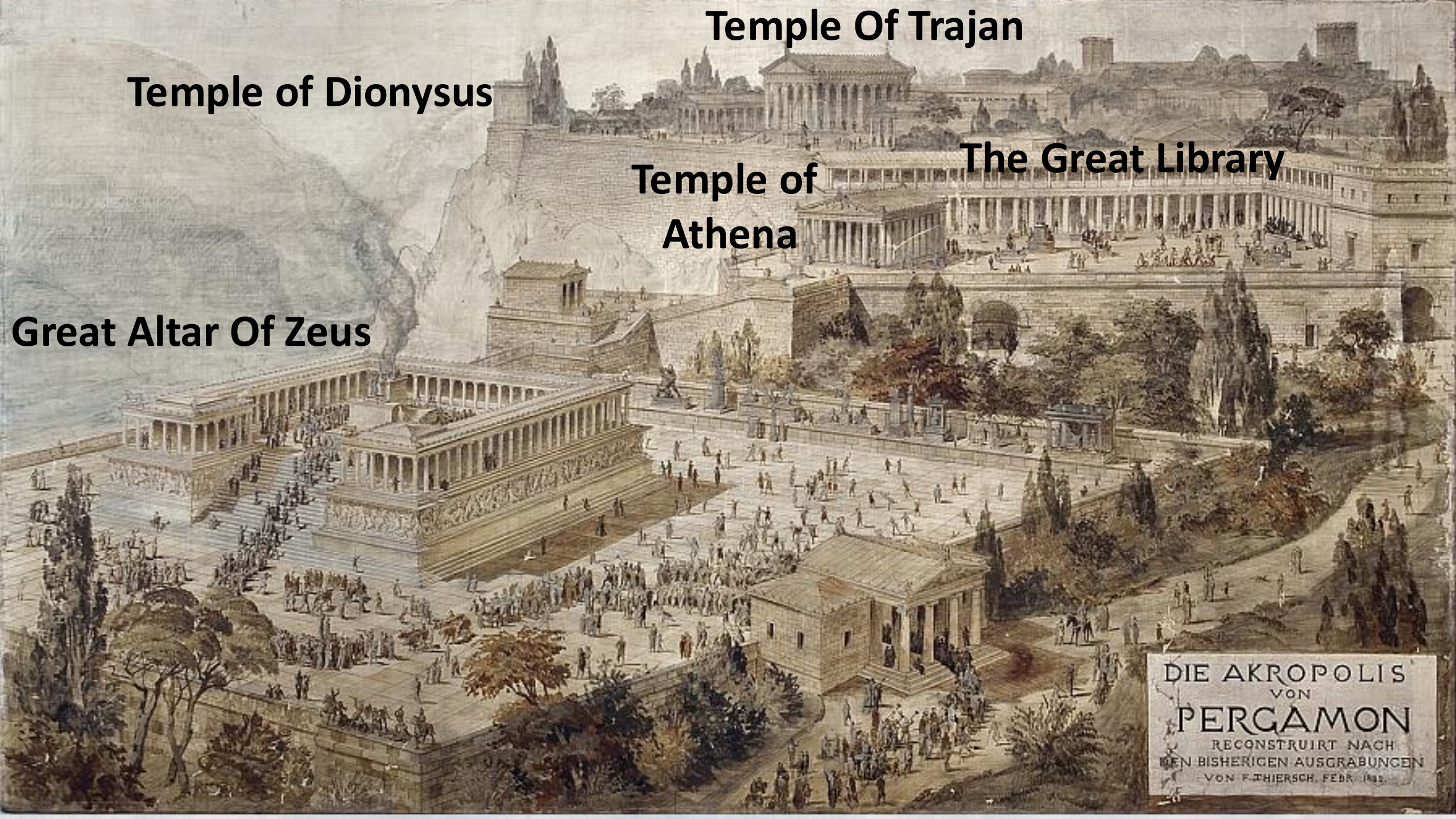
**Satan's #1 goal is to build
fear, pride & pain in your life
that will make lies look like love.**

The “devil didn’t make you do it,”
but he sure is trying to help!
(Genesis 3:4-5)

The SEVEN

Churches of Revelation





Temple Of Trajan

Temple of Dionysus

**Temple of
Athena**

The Great Library

Great Altar Of Zeus

DIE AKROPOLIS
VON
PERGAMON
RECONSTRUIRT NACH
DEN BISHERIGEN AUSGRABUNGEN
VON F. THIERSCH, FEBR. 1892.

“I know where you are living ... where Satan’s throne is” (2:13)

Pergamum had the 2nd largest library in the empire plus:

World
Renown
Temples
Of Pagan
Worship

1. Zeus - “king of all the gods”
2. Trajan - Emperor cult of Rome
3. Athena- goddess of wisdom
4. Dionysus - god of pleasure, ecstasy & wine
5. Demeter - god of harvest & wealth
6. Asclepius - cultic god of healing & medicine
7. Serapis - god of success thru syncretism

“Yet you are holding fast to My name, and you did not deny your faith in Me even in the days of Antipas My martyr ” (v13)

Christians weren't persecuted for believing in Jesus. They were persecuted for **only** believing in Jesus. They refused to participate, believe in, or depend on any other “god” or “power”

Pergamum: “Throne of Satan”

“While you believe in Jesus, we can also give you . . .”

1. Zeus - ultimate spirituality without accountability
2. Trajan - real power in society
3. Athena- better answers than the ignorant & religious
4. Dionysus - escape and ecstasy
5. Demeter - the way to riches
6. Asclepius - healing you can't find anywhere else
7. Serapis - a way to get along with everyone

*“¹⁴ But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold to the teaching of **Balaam** . . . ¹⁵ you also have some who hold to the teaching of the **Nicolaitans**. ¹⁶ **Repent** then. If not, I will come to you soon and make war against them with the sword of My mouth.”*

Revelation 2:14-16

“small is the gate & narrow the road that leads to life”
(Mt 7:14)

**[false]
teaching of
Balaam
(2:14)**

“You can worship
and should serve
more than one god
for a good life.”

**the words
of Him
who has
the sharp
two-
edged
sword
(2:12)**

**[false]
teaching of
Nicolaitans
(2:15)**

“Faith in Jesus &
following your
‘natural’ feelings in
‘love’ is good.”

Syncretism

(Balaam)

blending
together Jesus +
other belief
systems
(religious,
political or
cultural)

the words
of Him
who has
the sharp
two-
edged
sword
(2:12)

Compromise

(Nicolaitans)

ignoring parts of
Jesus' teaching &
lordship to justify
sin & lifestyles by
performing
"Christian" rituals
and sacrifices.

*Jesus' hates
syncretism & compromise
because He loves you & this world!*

*“But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, **which I also hate.**”*

(Revelation 2:6)

Syncretism

(Balaam)

John 14:6

Exodus 20:3

Acts 4:12

**Your word
is a lamp
for my
feet,
a light
on my
path**

(Ps 119:105)
(Heb 4:12-13)
(Rev. 2:12)
(John 1:14)

Compromise

(Nicolaitans)

1 Cor. 6:9-10

Luke 9:23

Mt. 7:21-23



Syncretism

(Balaam)

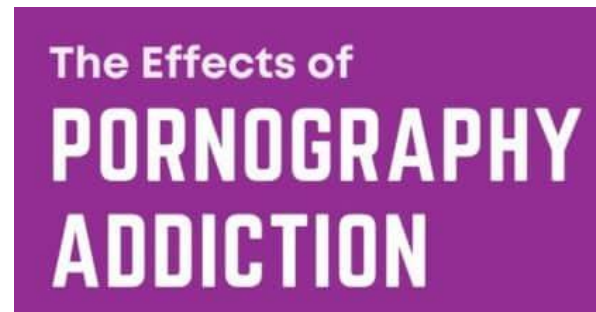


A new
command
I give you:
Love one
another.
As I have
loved you,
so you
must
love one
another.

(Jn 13:34)

Compromise

(Nicolatians)



Cohabitation

Why do 70% of couples today live
together before getting married?

Against compromise so we can be for all people

“Gay pride” We are grateful for & seek to understand each person

“Ally” Greatest love humbly & sacrificially invites us to repent

“Inclusion” All of us have sinned & “whosoever believes”

“Coexist” We listen & appreciate the stories of all people

“My truth” We submit to & share God’s Truth w/ hope for all

“Cancel Culture” We sacrifice & serve those who disagree & hate

“American Dream” We live for another Kingdom & provision

“Diversity” We value the sacredness of life, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, cultures & abilities in the love of Jesus

Tolerance

“Liberal”

Theology

1 Thess. 4:3

1 Ptr 1:15-16

Gal. 1:8

Orthodoxy

(John 15:7-12)

Sound Doctrine

(1 Tim 6:3)

Jesus Centered

(Col. 1:18)

The Way

(Acts 24:14)

Tradition

“Conservative”

Theology

Luke 11:52

Mark 7:9

Mt. 15:6

***Jesus Offers His Word
To Give You Victory
& To Discover Your True
Identity & Future***

***To everyone who conquers I will give some of the
hidden manna, and I will give a white stone, and
on the white stone is written **a new name** that no
one knows except the one who receives it.
(Rev. 2:17)***



Syncretism

(Balaam)

Give your
time &
children to
other idols of
this world.

Seek Only
Jesus

Grow In
His Word

“Ears to
Hear”

The
Altar

Compromise

(Nicolaitans)

Justify & stay
comfortable.
Believe your
feelings more than
God's Word.

