

## **The Mysteries regarding the Church at Pergamos II**

- I. Satan infiltrates Christendom, aka *Christendumb* (Rev. 2:12-17).
  1. He makes his home and throne there (v. 12).
  2. The people in the church have also made earth their home.
  3. Some are holding the doctrine of Balaam.
    - 1) Manipulating God's word.
    - 2) Seeking physical reward and human acclaim.
- II. Some in the church hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans.
  1. "Nico" from word meaning 'victory.'
  2. "Laitan" from a word meaning 'people'.
  3. Compound word means "victory over the people."
  4. This sect separates the clergy from the people, not accounting for the fact:
    - 1) That every Christian is a priest (1 Pet. 2:9).
    - 2) That every Christian can offer up spiritual sacrifices (1 Pet. 2:5).
    - 3) That every Christian is an equally valuable member in the Body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:25, 24; 1 Cor. 13:13; Gal. 3:28; Col. 3:11).
- III. The promise to the overcomer (v. 17).
  1. He will give to eat of the hidden manna.
  2. It is not until after the Rapture, and subsequent glorification of our bodies, that Christians will "see" Christ as He is (1 Jn. 3:2).
  3. At the Rapture, Christ will not be hidden from Christians.
    - 1) No Christian "sees" Him before the Rapture.
    - 2) Until the Rapture those who have 'gone home' are housed in an intermediate body.
    - 3) Manna was supplied daily to Israel to: (Ex. 16).
      - i. To sustain their physical life.
      - ii. Emphasize and test their dependence on God.
      - iii. To develop their trust in Him.
    - 4) The Bread of Life as a metaphor of His sustaining spiritual life (Jn. 6:31-35).
    - 5) Christians go home **to be present with the Lord, but not in His presence.**
    - 6) "Hidden manna" will be Christ as He regularly provides evidence of His close proximity to those in intermediate bodies: New Jerusalem, Tree of Life, white stone, etc.