

The Revelation to St. John

The Seven Letters, Part 2: Revelation 2:12-29

“May glorious truths that we have heard, the bright sword of Your mighty Word, spurn Satan that Your Church be strong, bold, unified in act and song. Restrain, O Lord, the human pride that seeks to thrust Your truth aside or with some man-made thoughts or things would dim the words Your Spirit sings.”

–“Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide,” stanzas 4-5 (*LSB*#585)

Understanding the Text

Read Revelation 2:12-17, the letter to the church in Pergamum.

1. How does Jesus identify Himself, and what does He know about this church (vv.12-15)?

2. What is Jesus' call to repent and His promise to those who do (vv.16-17)?

Read Revelation 2:18-29, the letter to the church in Thyatira.

3. How does Jesus identify Himself, and what does He know about this church (vv.18-20)?

4. What is Jesus' call to repent and His promise to those who do (vv.21-29)?

Applying the Text

Tolerating error in the Church is no different from teaching error in the Church.

1. Which is more dangerous to the Church: false teaching from within or attacks from without (Revelation 2:14, 20)?

2. Why is tolerating false teaching so dangerous to the Church (1 Corinthians 5:6-7)?

3. Who is behind false teaching (Revelation 2:13, 24)? What is the Church's only defense (Revelation 2:12, 18)?

God's mercy is long-suffering, but we dare not wait to repent and believe.

4. What is God's desire for all mankind (Revelation 2:16, 21-22; Ezekiel 18:31-32; Matthew 20:1-16; 1 Timothy 2:4)?

5. What is the dire consequence for those who do not repent (Revelation 2:23)?