



Battle for the Mind

Revelation 2:12-17

The Bottom Line: When it comes to the thoughts of the mind, tolerance brings bondage, but truth sets us free.

Introduction:

We live in an age that celebrates tolerance and the “coexistence” of individually determined truths.

Unfortunately, this idea has made its way into the church.

When you examine the words of Jesus, you quickly learn that there is nothing Christian or Christ-like about “tolerance.”

Truth:

Jesus writes to two churches who had seriously compromised in their convictions. To the church at Pergamum, Jesus reveals where the war against the church actually takes place. **Look with me at Revelation 2:12-17.**

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Application & Conclusion:

A church will not survive if they do not align and *realign* themselves with God's written word. Jesus, the Living Word, simply will not allow it. Jesus wars against falsehood because He loves the truth. He is The Truth. Therefore, His people will be a people of truth – one truth. One faith. One gospel.

So, how do you win in this battle for the mind?

- (1) By acknowledging that you do not have the corner on the truth
- (2) By consistently allowing His Word to penetrate your heart
- (3) By refusing to entertain any belief or idea that goes against His Word

If you commit to these things, then the lies of the Enemy can do you no harm. You will be a conqueror in Christ. To the one who conquers, Jesus promises hidden manna (sustenance and satisfaction) as well as the engraved white stone (redemption and friendship).

Hear what the Spirit says to the churches: The truth, and only the truth, will set you free.

Reflection Questions:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?