"The Letters Jesus Sent" (3)

"You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability." (2 Peter 3:17)

Jesus - The Living Word

Revelation 2:12 - (12) "And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: 'The words of him who has the sharp two-edged sword.""

Key Point: Jesus is the Antidote to Error

Holding Fast in a Hostile World

<u>Revelation 2:13</u> – (13) "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is. <u>Yet you hold fast my name</u>, and you did not deny my faith even in the days of Antipas my faithful witness, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells."

Holding Fast to Pathogenic Principles

Revelation 2:14-15 – (14) "But I have a few things against you: you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, so that they might eat food sacrificed to idols and practice sexual immorality. (15) So also you have some who hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans."

Repent or Prepare for War

Revelation 2:16 - (16) "Therefore repent. If not, I will come to you soon and war against them with the sword of my mouth."

Revelation for the Overcomer

Revelation 2:17 - (17) "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it."

To Combat Pathogenic Principles I must:

(1) Grow in Grace & Knowledge

"You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen." (2 Peter 3:17-18)

(2) Be Ready to Instigate Ideological Warfare

"For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ," (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)

Questions:

What impacted me the most in this message? What 'pernicious principles' have I allowed to captivate my mind? What is the antidote to error? (Ps. 119:9, 11; John 8:31-32) Will deception and error increase in the last days? (Matt. 24:4-5, 11; 1 Tim. 4:1)

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)