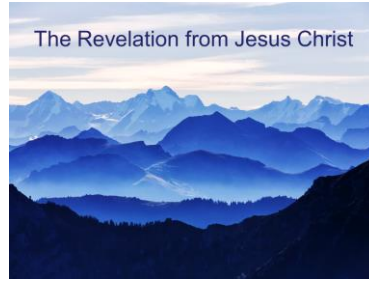




*You're Welcome Here!*



## Series – Revelation

### Study Guide 3: 7 Churches (Part B)

Week Commencing 19<sup>th</sup> May 2019

Please read **Revelation 2.12-17; Ephesians 5.1-7**

*The Roman Empire's strong presence in Pergamum pressurised the people of the city to bow the knee to the empire. The empire permitted the worship of the Greek gods for helping with body, mind and spirit. However, the worship of Jesus as Lord and God was 'discouraged'. In addition, there were people within the church itself 'enticing' the believers towards spiritual and moral compromise with the 'world' in order to better fit in, avoiding unnecessary hassle. The church seemed better able to resist the pressure from society than the 'enticing' from within their church.*

1. What kind of pressures do you experience from the 'world' around us – pressure to do some things / or pressure not to do some Christian things?  
Which of these pressures, if we caved into them, might result in compromise in our faithfulness to Jesus?
2. From within the church/ Christian friendships we can also be encouraged to accept spiritual, moral or sexual compromise as being ok. We might be led to think, in 2019 in the UK, 'what's the big deal?'  
Why is this stuff a big deal? And why is it often easier to resist the pressures from society outside, rather than from within the church?
3. When we see spiritual or moral or sexual compromise in our lives or in our church, what does Jesus say we need to do about it? Give some time to respond now please

Please read **Revelation 3.1-4; 14-17**

4. How would you describe the big issues in Sardis and Laodicea that need addressing?

*The writer, Kiddle talks about these two churches as, 'untroubled by persecution or heresy, they seem to have pursued a policy of convenience, the path of least resistance, rather than zealous discipleship in following Jesus as Lord - and look where it has brought them!'*

5. What do you think it means **ch 3.2-3** that their deeds are 'unfinished' in the sight of God?

Please read **Revelation 3.18-22** Jesus has nothing positive to say about Laodicea, but He still offers the church full and complete restoration if they hear His voice and open the door to Him.

Give some time to respond now please.