

THE PERILS OF PERGAMUM

Greatest city in Asia. Capital of 1 of pts of Alex's empire
133 BC willed to Rome. Made capital till AD130 tho Eph
edged it in imp't bec of location & commerce. Eumenes II
BC197-159. 200000 in lib. Ptolemy's librarian, Aristophanes
in Alexandria. (Parchment known 1000 yrs before but not
common). Eumenes also started & dedicated altar to Zeus
erected below sanctuary to Athena. 800' up hillsided on
ledge jutting out. 90' square, 20' high. Frieze around base
battle bet gods and giants.

I. Peril of Satan's Counterfeit, 13

A. Counterfeit miracles. Health resort at foot of hill.

Asclepius, snake symbol. Spend night in temple. Harmless
serpents. If touched same as if god touched. Gen 3. Rev 12:
Serpent=treacherous evil. But can do miracles.

B. Counterfeit ^{might} ministry. At altars of various gods. Frieze
depicted might of gods. Might of military, money, positio
intellect. Zeus called the Savior.

C. Counterfeit message. =Smyrna. Spirit of Rome began to
unify various states, cities. Enjoyed peace of Rome.
Justice, safety of travel, mail, business. Emperor became
visible form of spirit of Rome. Spontaneous worship, then
required. under Domitian, 81-96. 1/yr offer pinch of incense
on altar to Caesar. 29BC temple in P to Divine Augustus &
goddess Roma. Given certificate "we, rep of emp, have seen yo
sacrificing." Political loyalty more than rel bec could
worship any god. Caesar is Lord. Yet more intense here 365/
Man bet God. vs God=man. Only true message.

II. Peril of Balaam's Corruption, 14

Kg Moab scared bec Is camped on border to go into Canaan.
Allied with Midian. Sent for Balaam to curse Is. Could not
tho did curse Moab, Num 24:17. Did counsel how to corrupt
Is, 31:16. Story in 25. Marry heathen. Go to worship.
God punished. Ch may withstand Satan, world, but needs
careful obed and purity.

III. Peril of Nicolaitans' compromise, 15.

Libertines. OK meat at home, not temple, 1Cor 10:21. Now
doing it in temples and worshiping idols. Also orgies that
accompanied. Free love. Leg lib gone wild. Grks did it.

Concl. Promises ⁽¹⁾ X is suff. Like manna 40 yrs. Like amulets
you don't need bec Name on heart. (2) X is superior. Sword
symbol of gov right of life or death. X sup to Satan, govt,
world. Find suff in Him.