

## 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 <sup>might</sup> 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 <sup>(1)</sup> 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.