

THE THIRD LETTER

WHAT TO TAKE INTO WHAT IS NEXT

April 19, 2020

I. A DIFFERENT QUESTION TO CONSIDER

A. How will this end?

B. How will you be different because of this season?

- Things may get worse before they get better.
- You are going to make it!

II. WHAT TO TAKE INTO WHAT IS NEXT

1. A Commitment to Courage

Revelation 2:12-13 “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of Him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. I know where you live—where Satan has his throne. Yet you remain true to My name. You did not renounce your faith in Me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

- Communication without context leads to confusion.

A. Courage is not found in where you are.

- Do not allow your situation to make you fearful.

B. Courage is not found in when you are.

- Do not allow your season to make you cynical.

C. Courage is found in who you are.

- Choose to be courageous.

D. Courage is found in who He is.

Joshua 1:9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Revelation 2:12 “To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword.

2. Commitment to Change

Revelation 2:14-16 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of My mouth.

A. Change is growth.

- Stop letting who you were determine who you are.

Growth = Change

Change = Loss

Loss = Pain

Thus...

Growth = Pain

Ecclesiastes 4:13 Better a poor but wise youth than an old but foolish king who no longer knows how to heed a warning.

B. Change is repentance.

- We must choose to view our culture through the lens of scripture and not to view scripture through the lens of our culture.

Romans 2:4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of His kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

- Throw out those chips!

3. Commitment to Hope

Revelation 2:17 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.

A. Hope in the provision of Jesus.

Philippians 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

B. Hope in the presence of Jesus.

- You may not be in God's house, but God is in yours.