



It's Time to have the "Define the Relationship" Talk

Revelation 2:12-17, "To the angel of the church in Pergamum write: These are the words of him who has the sharp, double-edged sword. ¹³I 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. ¹⁴Nevertheless, 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. ¹⁵Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans. ¹⁶Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth. ¹⁷Whoever 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."

What might make you reluctant to define the relationship Christians should have with Christ?

First: An inadequate view of the p_____ of the church.

Galatians 6:1, "Brothers and sisters, if someone is caught in a sin, you who live by the Spirit should restore that person gently."

James 5:19-20, "My brothers and sisters, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring that person back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins."

Second, poor t_____.

Third, fear of l_____.

Fourth: poor e_____.

Fifth: A misunderstanding of how to r_____ to the nonbelieving culture.

What does Jesus say to those who are reluctant to define the relationship Christians should have with Christ?

Verses 16-17, "Repent therefore...! 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."

Manna = fellowship

The White Stone = acceptance

The New Name = identity

