Revelation

Chapter Two Questions

**1. Context**

1. Who is speaking in Revelation 2, and through whom is the message given (v. 1, 8, 12, 18)?
2. To which four churches are the letters in this chapter addressed (v. 1, 8, 12, 18)?
3. What pattern or structure can be seen in each letter (commendation, rebuke, warning, promise)(Name which ones appear in each letter)?
4. How might the cities of Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, and Thyatira have influenced the issues in their churches?
5. What is the significance of Christ describing Himself differently to each church?

**2. Understanding**
6. What good works are commended in the church of Ephesus (v. 2-3)?
7. What did Christ have against Ephesus (v. 4)?
8. What was the church at Smyrna experiencing (v. 9-10)?
9. Why is Pergamos described as the place “where Satan’s seat is” (v. 13)?
10. What false doctrines are mentioned in Pergamos (v. 14-15)?
11. Who/What is the woman called “Jezebel” in Thyatira, and what was she teaching (v. 20)?
12. What promises are made to the overcomers in each of the four churches (v. 7, 11, 17, 26-28)?

**3. Meaning (Interpretation)**
13. What does it mean to have “left thy first love” (v. 4)? What were they doing well and how does that apply to them leaving their first love?
14. What is the “tree of life” promised in verse 7, and how does it connect with Genesis and Revelation 22?
15. What does the phrase “synagogue of Satan” (v. 9) reveal about false religion?
16. How should we understand “the doctrine of Balaam” (v. 14) in light of Numbers 22–25 and 31:16?
17. What is the meaning of Christ giving the “hidden manna” and “a white stone” with a new name (v. 17)?
18. How do the warnings of judgment (removing the candlestick, fighting with the sword of His mouth, casting into great tribulation) demonstrate Christ’s holiness?

**4. Doctrinal (Theological)**
19. What do these letters teach us about Christ’s knowledge of His churches?
20. How do the repeated calls to “repent” show the necessity of repentance in the Christian life? How aware are you of what needs to be repented of in your own life?
21. What do the promises to overcomers reveal about eternal security?
22. How do these warnings emphasize the importance of doctrinal purity in the church?
23. What do we learn about spiritual warfare from the references to Satan’s activity (v. 9, 13, 24)?
24. How does Revelation 2 reveal Christ as both Judge and Savior of His people?

**5. Application**
25. In what ways might believers today be guilty of leaving their first love? More specifically, In what ways may you personally be guilty of leaving your first love? (Think about all the good things that Ephesus was doing.
26. How can a Christian return to their “first works” and rekindle love for Christ (v. 5)?
27. How can the church today prepare to endure persecution like the church at Smyrna (v. 10)?
28. What modern parallels can be drawn with the doctrine of Balaam or the Nicolaitans?
29. How can we guard ourselves against false teaching like that of “Jezebel” (v. 20)?
30. What does it mean for you personally to “overcome,” and how does Christ’s promise motivate you?
31. How can you develop “ears to hear” what the Spirit is saying to the churches today?
32. What is one specific step you can take this week to remain faithful in love, truth, and holiness?