

Doctrinal Studies:  
NICOLAITANS – Revelation 2:6

- I. Defined: 3 Concepts
  - 1. Some say it was a priestly order attempting to rule over the people.
  - 2. Others say they really cannot be identified.
  - 3. Still others conclude that a man by the name of Nicolas of Antioch formed Antinomianism a Gnostic cult “one must indulge in sin to understand it”.
- II. Nicolaitans a compound word nikao-νικάω (to conquer) and laos λαός (people)
- III. A licentious branch of Gnosticism, enemy of the Church in the first, second and third centuries. Rev. 2:14,15
- IV. The problem is the controversy of the relationship of Christianity to Paganism.
- V. The compromise with paganism among the Nicolaitan Christians was a preview of things to come.
- VI. They represent the phallic cult. We are not to hate people but their “deeds” as the Ephesians did.
- VII. The phallic cult attracted people through its licentiousness and its religious function related to idolatry. Referred to with Balaam in Rev. 2:14,15