

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 promoting the notion that “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](#).