

Doctrine of the Nicolaitians
Nicholism is heresy.

Their mindset was:

They believed in compromise

They believed it was okay to commit sexual sins and continue with God.

They believed they could govern themselves through the flesh making judgements about sin, through flesh and the carnal mind.

They were deviant Christians....

Doctrine of Balaam

The Old Testament character of Balaam, one who tried unsuccessfully to prophecy against the people of Israel ([Numbers 22](#)). He eventually advised [King Balak of Moab](#), the enemy of Israel, to pursue a campaign of seduction against them ([Numbers 31:8](#)). The doctrine of Balaam is not only a serious problem, but a devious one.

Balaam, a prophet from Mesopotamia, was willing to use his God-given talents for illicit purposes. Even though he knew Balak was God's enemy, he tried to sell his prophetic gifts to help him. When that didn't work, Balaam counseled Balak on the most effective way to weaken Israel. This was through seduction, using Moabite and Midianite women to tempt the Israelites into sexual relationships and into pagan rituals. The Israelites who participated brought God's judgment upon themselves ([Numbers 25:1-9](#)).

Putting these ideas together gives a clear view of the doctrine of Balaam. It is the attitude that one can be fully cooperative with the world and still serve God. The doctrine of Balaam teaches compromise, wanting Christians to forget they are called to be separate and holy ([Leviticus 20:26](#); [1 Peter 1:2](#)); the doctrine of Balaam makes believers indistinguishable from the unbelieving world ([Matthew 5:13](#)). The doctrine of Balaam is a belief that "a little sin" doesn't hurt ([Galatians 5:9](#)), especially if there's some financial or personal benefit involved ([1 Timothy 6:5](#)). A person following the doctrine of Balaam is willing to compromise his beliefs for the sake of economics. He acts to enable sinful behaviors for personal gain or even participate in them ([Romans 1:32](#)).