

# BEHOLD I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK”

Revelation 3:14-22

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## INTRODUCTION

The church at Laodicea was the lukewarm church! At one time this church was established either by the apostle John or some of his close associates. The people had been genuinely saved and genuinely loved the Lord. What happened to them? How did they get into the position that we see them in this passage? Can the same thing happen to us personally and to our church?

How fervent is your relationship with Christ? How deep is your love for him? How much joy do you receive from serving the Lord? Let God stir the dying embers of your heart and rekindle the fire and the passion for him that needs to be there.

## THE LORD STANDS AT THE DOOR OF YOUR HEART AND KNOCKS; WILL YOU LET HIM IN?

- I. THE PROBLEM of \_\_\_\_\_ (another name for complacency!)
  - A. The Normal State (15-16)
    - Once again, the Lord “knows your deeds.”
    - They should be either hot or cold
    - Compare the water of Hieropolis—hot, and the water of Colossae—cold.
  - B. Their Actual State (15a, 16a)—neither hot nor cold – lukewarm!
    - The Lord wants them to be one or the other, but not be insipid and lukewarm.
    - They need to understand the character of the Lord who knows them! (14)
      1. The “\_\_\_\_\_” —He is the confirmation and agreement of all God’s truth in Scripture.
      2. The “faithful and true \_\_\_\_\_” – his witness is true to God and his Word and true to the need of those who hear it.
      3. He is the “\_\_\_\_\_ of God’s creation.”
        - This does not mean that Jesus was created.
        - This does mean that he is the initiator of all creation, its origin, and source.
  - C. The result (16b)—“I will vomit you out of my mouth.”
    - The Lord is sickened by lukewarmness! He is repelled by it.
- II. THE BASIS OF THE PROBLEM (17)—\_\_\_\_\_ Sufficiency
  - A. Their Claim
    1. Rich
    2. Have become wealthy
    3. Have need of nothing [The threefold emphasis shows the severity of their problem.]
  - B. The reality: They do not know that they are:
    1. Poor 2) Blind 3) Naked

- III. THE SOLUTION (18)—“Buy from Me” (cf. Is. 55:1).  
 God’s riches are bought for free; the only cost is human pride and self-will.
- A. Refined gold-- that you may truly be rich
- Tested through the Word and the Spirit and trials.
  - Compare the banking industry in Laodicea.
- B. White garments – that you might be clothed, and not shamefully naked
- Men outside of Christ have been naked before God since the Garden of Eden.
  - Those who approach God on the basis of good works experience such nakedness.
  - Laodicea was notorious for their black woolen garments.
- C. Eye salve – it stings but heals; compare “Phrygian powder”  
 HOW FULL GOD IS!
- IV. THE MOTIVATION (19)—Because of His love He:
- A. Reproves
- B. Disciplines – see Proverbs 3:12; compare Hebrews 12:6.
- V. THE INVITATION (20a)
- to the church
  - to the individual
  - I disagree with those who say this verse cannot be used as an invitation to the unsaved; many in this church obviously needed salvation.
- A. He stands at the door.
- B. He knocks.
- C. He speaks.
- D. He will enter.
- E. He will dine with us. **What divine condescension!!**
- VI. THE RESPONSE (20b)
- A. Hear his \_\_\_\_\_ & Repent (v. 20, 22; 19)
- B. Open the \_\_\_\_\_ & be Zealous (20;19)
- VII. THE REWARD (21)—
- “He who overcomes” – that is the believer
  - “I will grant to him” – that is a gift of God’s grace.
  - “He will sit with me on my throne”-- sharing Christ’s reign.
  - As Christ also overcame, and sat down with His Father on the Father’s throne.

## CONCLUSION

Give up complacency and self-sufficiency!

Don’t let the world crowd him out. Make room in your heart for Jesus.

- 1) Be saved
- 2) Be hot or cold for Jesus; don’t be lukewarm!

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