

Laodicea “The Lukewarm Church”

Revelation 3:14-22

September 21, 2022

Message to Laodicea

“To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Origin of the creation of God, says this: ¹⁵‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. ¹⁶So because you are lukewarm and neither hot nor cold, I will vomit you out of My mouth. ¹⁷Because you say, “I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have no need of anything,” and you do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, ¹⁸I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to apply to your eyes so that you may see. ¹⁹Those whom I love, I rebuke and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent. ²⁰Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹The one who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat with My Father on His throne. ²²The one who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

*Prideful

*Materially Affluent

*Bland

*Mediocrity

Jesus Loved This Church in spite of its pitfalls.

1. In this last letter, Christ the Lord of the Church's standing on the outside, knocking and asking for permission to come in.

Imagine Doctor lukewarm about diagnosis.

Imagine Policeman lukewarm about crime.

Imagine Army lukewarm about war.

Imagine Pastor lukewarm about your spiritual condition.

Imagine Spouse lukewarm about relationship.

Imagine Politician lukewarm about policy.

2. BOTTOM LINE: JESUS SAYS, "DON'T EVER GIVE ME LUKEWARM."

3. GOD'S RESPONSE TO APOSTASY IN THE CHURCHES IS Anger.

4. GOD'S RESPONSE TO APOSTASY IN THE CHURCHES IS A Sick Stomach.

5. Partial obedience is Disobedience.

6. The Laodicea Church **had three major problems:**

- (1) Pride

- (2) Self Sufficiency

- (3) Materialism

7. Under Roman Rule, Laodicea was a wealthy and prosperous city.

It was a center for:

- (1) The Banking

- (2) The Medical Center

- (3) The Eye Salve

(4) The Wool – Black Wool

8. The city had a major flaw: Bad Water (Lime Water).
9. Pure cold water was piped in from Colossae and hot mineral water from Hierapolis - but by the time it got to Laodicea, it was Lukewarm.

10. **Characteristics of the End-Time Church.**

1. A Church of Sickening 15-16 **“neither cold nor hot”**.

Three Conditions of the Heart Noted in the New Testament

(1) The Hot Heart.

(2) The Cold Heart.

(3) The Lukewarm Heart.

2. A church sickening conceit vs17 **“in need of nothing”**
3. A church of senselessness Christlessness vs20 **“Christ excluded”**.

* Naked

* Pitiful

* Blind

* Powerless

* Unwilling to take a stand on anything.

* Pastor controlled by political or power groups.

1. **Jesus’ Response spit you out.**

2. 1. You are beggars despite banks.

3. 2. You are blind despite your healing eye salve.

4. 3. You are naked despite your clothing factories.

5. **Jesus’ Prescription for a Sick Church**

6. For their sickening complacency: Repentance.

7. For their sickening conceit: zeal for the Lord.

8. For their sickening Christlessness: no change in Christ. Readmit Christ

9. Personal Application where are you in your Christian walk?

10. Are you satisfied with where you are spiritually? If Not, why not try God's prescription:

11. REMEMBER TO REPENT AND RE-INVITE JESUS BACK INTO THE CENTER OF YOUR LIFE. IT'S THE ONLY CURE FOR LUKEWARMNESS.