

# CHURCH AT LAODICEA!

Revelation 3:14-22.

**14** To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the ruler of God's creation.

**15** I know your deeds; you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were one or the other!

**16** So because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to vomit you out of My mouth!

**17** You say, 'I am rich; I have grown wealthy and need nothing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

**18** I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, white garments so that you may be clothed and your shameful nakedness not exposed, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

**19** Those I love, I rebuke and discipline. Therefore, be earnest and repent.

**20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him, and he with Me.

**21** To the one who overcomes, I will grant the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

**22** He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

## Introduction.

This was a life-transforming passage for me. After reading this passage, I gave myself to Christ. I have explained it fully in our website link:

<https://www.acts242church.org/archives/669>



LAODICEA was 40 miles southeast of Philadelphia church in Turkey, and 100 miles east of Ephesus. The city was only 10 miles from Colossae, close enough that Paul told the churches at Colossae and LAODICEA, to share the letters they had received. (Colossians 4:16). Hierapolis, with its famous hot springs, sat 7 miles to the north.

Laodicea was famous for glossy black wool, banking, and a renowned school of medicine. It's "Phrygian powder" was endorsed as a cure for eye defects. Laodicea's wealth promoted a self-sufficient spirit. When an earthquake hit LAODICEA in AD 60, the citizens rejected Rome's offers to help, and they rebuilt the city on their own.

6-mile-long aqueduct brought Laodicea's water supply from the south. The water came from hot springs and was cooled in transport through the aqueduct. Another channel also delivered warm water to LAODICEA. While the city had water, its poor quality would at times make people vomit!

A significant Jewish population resided in LAODICEA. A Greek ruler had transported 2000 Jewish families to the area about 300 years before. This church was probably planted by Epaphras, a gentile friend of the apostle Paul.

## 1. Jesus does not want a neutral position between good and evil!

Revelation. 3:14-16.

14 To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the ruler of God's creation.

Amen means truly, or let it be so. Jesus always used it and said, truly I say to you!

He is always faithful and true, and all things were created through Him, and indeed, He is the ruler of the whole creation, and Lord of them all!

15 I know your deeds; you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were one or the other!

My testimony! I thought it was the perfect position!

16 So because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to vomit you out of My mouth!

Don't try to sit on the fence! No gray areas (let your answer be yes or no)

## 2. Jesus warns that the Worldly possessions take us nowhere!

Revelation 3:16,17.

17 You say, 'I am rich; I have grown wealthy and need nothing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Just because we have an abundance of earthly things does not make us rich before God. We are still wretched, pitiful, poor, and naked before Him!

We must become spiritually rich by abiding in His Word and Spirit, and in faith working through love.

Revelation 3:18.

18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, white garments so that you may be clothed and your shameful nakedness not exposed, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.

### 3. Jesus is trying to enter the door of our hearts and correct us!

Revelation 3:19;20.

19 Those I love, I rebuke and discipline. Therefore, be earnest and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in and dine with him, and he with Me.

### 4. Just as Jesus overcame this world, we must overcome also!

Revelation 3:21,22.

21 To the one who overcomes, I will grant the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

1 John 4:4.

4 You, little children, are from God and have overcome them, because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him (the devil) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

## Conclusion/Summary

1. Jesus wants us to choose between light and darkness, between good and evil. He does not want us to be lukewarm and live in the grey areas.
2. Our Lord wants us to store our treasures in heaven. Our wealth, power, and worldly wisdom will not take us anywhere in God's kingdom!
3. Jesus has been knocking on our door. Can you please open the door and let Him in!
4. Jesus wants us to overcome the temptations of the devil as He did (Mathew 4!)

Daniel Israel

9.15.24