

Lesson 9 – Revelation 3:14-22
Laodicea: The Church that is _____

1. The Introduction (v14).

a. Laodicea:

- 1) Under Roman rule the city had enjoyed great prosperity from its production of _____ in general and a certain _____ in particular which was widely sold.
- 2) It was also famous for its _____ ointment and _____ powder believed to remedy weak and ailing _____.
- 3) It was founded by Antiochus II in the middle of the _____ century B.C. and named after his wife Laodice.
- 4) It was located about _____ miles southeast of Philadelphia on the road to Colossae.
- 5) Today, the city as well as the church lay in complete ruins.

b. “These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God”:

- 1) “Amen” = “_____” or “_____” and is usually used as the ending to a prayer. “As a title of Christ it indicates His _____ and the _____ of the fulfillment of His promises” (Walvoord, 90).
- 2) “the faithful and true witness”: This statement serves as a stark contrast to the unfaithful and untrue church addressed in this letter. I.e., Laodicea is a church that is _____ one thing and _____ another.
- 3) “the beginning of the creation of God”:
 - a) “the beginning” = ἡ ἀρχή (hē archē) = beginning in the sense of being the _____ or the _____ of the creation of God. Jesus was the primary mover in the creation of the world and everything in it – see Col 1:15-17 and John 1:1-3.
 - b) Christ is reminding the Laodiceans that the _____ that they are reveling in come from Him who is the creator of all things.

2. The Condemnation (v15-20).

a. The Indictment (v15-17):

- 1) “because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth”

2) What is the meaning of lukewarm?

a) Something of no _____ value – whereas hot water _____ the body and cold water _____ the thirst, lukewarm water does neither.

b) Or of someone _____ between the normal _____ from a state of coldness to a state of spiritual hotness:

1] Cold = the state in which one is cold to the things of Christ and the gospel leaving them totally _____ and arousing no interest or spiritual _____. They have no evidence of grace or _____. In other words, the state of a _____.

2] Hot = the state in which one shows genuine spiritual _____ and leaves no question as to the presence of _____ life, the _____ power and presence of the Holy Spirit, and a _____ testimony of their faith in Christ. I.e., the state of a true _____.

3] Lukewarm = those who never made it to _____.

a] “They may be _____ Christians who attend church but have fallen far short of a true _____ for Christ They have been touched by the gospel, but it is not clear whether they really belong to Christ” (Walvoord, 92).

b] The lukewarm are “those who participate in the outer _____ without the inner reality” (Walvoord, 93).

c] The result of lukewarm “is _____, membership in an organization without biblical Christianity and without membership in the Body of Christ accompanied by the miracle of the new birth” (Walvoord, 93).

d] _____ Christians. Those who _____ to be Christians but behave/live like _____ because that is what they really are – see Titus 1:16.

c) Or of someone who was once _____, but has since _____ off.

1] Jesus describes them in Matt 13:7 and 22.

2] v17: _____ Christians. Those who have become focused on _____ things instead of _____ things.

a] The members of this church (and sadly this includes the _____ – notice the use of the first person singular) have their eyes are on _____ wealth instead of _____ riches.

- b] They no longer see the need to _____ on God to meet their needs.
- c] They have become spiritually _____, unable to _____ or _____ spiritual things, and are no longer behaving as though they are spiritually _____ and, therefore, are in a miserable and pitiful condition.

3) Why is this condition so utterly obnoxious to God?

- a) Whereas the _____ cannot and the _____ will not, it is the _____ who bring _____ to the cause of Christ.
- b) It is the _____ (i.e., those who profess to be _____) but who act like _____) who cause the name of God to be _____ among the nations – see Rom 2:21-24.

b. The Solution (v18-21):

1) For the _____ Christians:

- a) v18: Get your eyes off _____ and the _____ and get them back on Him. Focus on acquiring the _____ that will not perish (i.e. storing riches in heaven which reflect His glory – see 1 Cor 3:10-15) and living in a way that reflects being adorned in _____ raiment (i.e., His righteous covering) rather than the _____ raiment provided by the world (see 2 Cor 6:17 and 1 Thes 5:22).

b) How?

- 1] v19: Receive His loving _____ (see Heb 12:4-11) and _____ (see Luke 15:11-24).
- 2] v20: Reestablish your _____ with Him by once again giving Him full control of your _____ (i.e., _____ the excluded Christ back into your life) – see James 4:6-10 and 1 John 1:9.

2) For the _____ Christians:

- a) v20: _____ Jesus to come into your heart and become the _____ of worship, adoration, and love in your life. What does Mark 6:48 and John 6:21 teach us?
- b) I.e., make a _____ to be either hot or cold. Those who choose hot will _____ spiritual death and _____ with Him in heaven (v21).

3. The Invitation (v22).