



# THE BOOK OF REVELATION

## THE LUKEWARM CHURCH

**Introduction:** The Apostle John addresses the Church of Laodicea last among the seven churches in Asia Minor. Of all these congregations, Laodicea had the most issues. While John found no fault with the Church of Philadelphia, he could find nothing to commend in Laodicea. Despite its corruption at the time of John's writing, Laodicea still retained its candlestick, signifying its legitimacy as a church. This shows that a corrupt church can exist until Christ himself removes the candlestick.

### CHRIST REVEALS HIMSELF (V. 14)

**He is described as...**

- ...*"the Amen."*
- ...*"the faithful and true witness."*
- ...*"the beginning of the creation of God."*

### CHRIST REVEALS THE CHURCH'S TRUE SPIRITUAL TEMPERATURE (VS. 15-16)

**Christ describes them as neither HOT nor COLD, but LUKEWARM.**

- This reveals half-heartedness (lacking excitement, not enthusiastic).
- This reveals apathy (lack of concern; a feeling of indifference).

**Christ rejects their lukewarm attitude...**

- ...*"So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold: I will spew thee out of my mouth.."* (v 16)

### THE CHURCH'S THREE-FOLD BOAST OF ITSELF (V. 17)

**The Laodicean assembly boasted...**

- ...their self-sufficiency. *"...I am rich..."*
- ...their self-importance. *"...and increased with goods..."*
- ...their self-reliance, self-satisfaction. *"...and have need of nothing."*

(CONTINUED)

## THE CHURCH'S TRUE CONDITION (V. 17)

Christ reveals that they are...

- ...*wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.*

## THE CHURCH'S THREE-FOLD NEED (V. 18)

Christ advises the church to...

- ...secure from Him *"gold tried in the fire..."*
- ...secure from Him *"white raiment..."*
- ...secure from Him *"eyesalve..."*

## THE LORD'S FOUR-FOLD COUNSEL (V. 19-20)

Christ instructs the church to...

- ...be zealous.
- ...repent.
- ...hear Him... *"If any man hear my voice..."* (v20)
- ...open the door. Notice Christ's location in reference to this church. *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock..."*

## THE LORD'S BLESSING FOR THE OVERCOMERS (V. 21-22)

Christ promises a seat with Christ in His throne, but only if his churches hear and obey what the spirit is saying to them.

**Lesson Conclusion:** The Laodicean Church epitomized spiritual apathy, marked by coldness, self-satisfaction, and lukewarm devotion. Jesus Christ, through the Apostle John, unequivocally condemned this tepid state, urging believers to cultivate fervent spiritual passion. This imperative extends beyond the church as a collective body of believers to each individual. A rigorous examination of one's spiritual temperature is essential, for anything less than a fervent faith is unacceptable in God's sight.