

VII. LAODICEA: LUKEWARMNESS

Revelation 3:14-22

I. Church: LAODICEA (v14)

II. Characteristics of Speaker (v14):

- A. The Amen: faithful & true witness: absolutely trustworthy
- B. Ruler of Creation

You can trust this One with your life with no reservations

III. Commendations & Encouragement:

None! Severest of all seven letters

IV. Criticisms (v15-17): You are

- A. _____ : neither hot nor cold (cf hot springs of Hierapolis that become lukewarm by the time they reached Laodicea
 What mean by cold? Refreshing (Prov 25:25 cf Matt 10:42)
 Or lacking any interest in Christ (Matt 24:12)?
 In any case, they are **nauseating** in their apathy

 How do we see this? Studying Word -- Prayer -- Evangelism -- Concern for America -- Giving \$ -- interest in missions
- B. _____ : self-satisfied, with no sense of need.
 Out of touch with reality:
 Wretched -- Pitiful -- Poor -- Blind -- Naked

 Irony: Center of banking -- eye salve -- textiles

V. Counsel/Commands (v18-20):

- A. New recognition of need:
 - 1. Recognize spiritual poverty and buy true **GOLD**! Peter 1:7
 Recognize how fleeting are the riches of this world
 Eg: Whitemarsh Hall
 - 2. Recognize your spiritual nakedness and buy **WHITE CLOTHES**:
 Rev 2:5; 19:8
 - 3. Recognize your spiritual blindness and buy true **EYE SALVE**:
 Matt 13:13-17
- B. New repentance of apathy
- C. New hunger for Christ

VI. Consequences (v21):

Overcomers sit with Jesus on His Throne, just as He overcame and sits with His Father on His Throne!
 Does this seem too much?
 Let me press it further: you are *already* seated with Him in the heavenlies in your current status (Eph 2:6; Col 3:1-3)!
 Jesus promises you to see and fully experience what you now only perceive by faith.
 Is that not enough to make you "hot" for Him?

VII. Call to Heed (v22):

Begins with how much you can trust Him: v14
 Middle counsels you to see Reality Riches: v15-20
 Ends with privilege that intoxicates your hope: v21

- Q1: How does CPC compare with Laodicea?
- Q2: What difference would it make if you really believed this just this week?
- Q3: What is Jesus saying to you from this series?