

THE MESSAGE TO THE LUKEWARM CHURCH (LAODICEA)

Rev. 3:14-22

Introduction: This is the last and the worst church Christ addressed. There is **NO** commendation at all. What was it that made this church so bad?

Half-commitment! To Christ there is **NO GOOD WHATSOEVER** in a lukewarm, half-committed believer. What does Christ have to say about this church?

I. THE RECIPIENTS

1. The Pastor: He is the one who is ultimately responsible for the state of the church.
2. The Church of Laodicea:
 - The chief city of Phrygia, an extremely wealthy city.
 - It was a financial banking center
 - It was a clothing manufacturing center
 - It had a famous medical school, known for its eye salve.

II. THE SPEAKER

Jesus Christ is the speaker:

- He is the "Amen:" the declaration, the guarantee of the truth.
- He is the "faithful and true witness:" perfectly and completely honest.
- He is the "beginning of the creation of God:" source of all things.

III. THE COMPLAINT

They were **LUKEWARM!**

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| -half-committed to Christ | -half-committed to proclaiming Christ |
| -half-committed to teaching | -half-committed to evangelism/missions |
| -half-committed to pure living | -half-committed to self-denial |
| -half-committed to the Church | -half-committed to attending services |
| -half-committed to giving | -half-committed to witnessing |
| -half-committed to Bible study and Prayer | |
| Etc..... | |

IV. THE WARNING

They will be rejected!

1. They had made a false profession: They were rich and prosperous and did not need anything.
 - self-sufficient - independent - self-centered - prideful -
 - conceited - boastful.They did not need even Christ, they were fine without Him.
2. Their true condition: wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked.
 - spiritually wretched (afflicted spiritually, inferior, contemptible).

- spiritually miserable (pitied, despicable).
- spiritually poor . (as poor as one could get).
- spiritually blind (only saw material and worldly things)
- spiritually naked (had only their own goodness).

IV. THE COUNSEL

1. "BUY" spiritual things, not material:
 - a. True riches, wealth is not material but spiritual found in Christ.
 - b. White clothing: spiritual clothing (righteousness of Christ).
 - c. Eye salve: spiritual eye sight is essential to see as Christ sees.
2. Be Zealous and Repent! Boil and burn with zeal, sincerity, and earnestness in repenting. Burn a path to repent. Get to the matter of repenting immediately.
3. Open the heart's door and let Christ in!
 - Christ stands at the heart's door.
 - Christ knocks at the heart's door.
 - Christ pleads for entrance.
 - Christ will live within the hearts and lives of those who open the door.
 - Christ will be a constant companion.

V. THE PROMISE

1. The overcomer will sit with Christ:
 - shall rule and reign with Christ forever
 - shall be assigned duties and given responsibilities to oversee and manage
 - shall rule and oversee the work and duties of angels
2. The overcomer will rule as a King with Christ throughout the whole universe and for all eternity.