

The Year of the Revelation

~ Laodicea, Lukewarm (The Church of Today) ~

* Two Aspects

- (1) We live in an era when the church struggles with a lukewarm state - not just corporately but individually.
(Our world moves us towards lukewarmness.)
* See how later in the letter. *
- (2) We should be encouraged and excited that these are the last days of the church - Jesus is coming soon!

I. Jesus describes Himself -

- A. The Amen - "so be it" - The Sovereignty of God - Total Rulership

Not up for a vote or trial by jury.

- B. The faithful and true witness -

(1) Consistency - Faithful

(2) Honesty - True

* A Dependable Witness *

- (3) "The beginning of the creation of God" - He has been present to see all that has happened - so witness it!

Not "first of" but rather "the source of."

* No Word of Commendation *

II. Jesus' Words of Correction -

"I know your deeds" - a repeated theme!

"that you are neither cold nor hot!"

The condition of the heart:

Cold - Matthew 24:12

End Times: "And because lawlessness is increased, most people's love [heart] will grow cold."

Hot - Luke 24:32

Road to Emmaus: "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scripture to us?" Matthew 24:12

Revelation 3:16: "You are neither." - "You are lukewarm."

"Because you are lukewarm, I will spit you out of my mouth."

Explanation:

Hierapolis - Hot Springs - Had hot water by aquaducts to Laodicea

Colosse - Had pure cold water - Had brought to Laodicea

By the time both waters arrived they were both lukewarm!

Hot Beverages → Lukewarm

Cold Beverages → Lukewarm

III. "I would that you were cold or hot."

Why?

A. Hot - That your heart was hot with a passionate love and commitment to God and His Son, Jesus!

* Understand That One *

Why cold?

B. Cold - To have no relationship with God and therefore to realize that there is a need to have your heart warmed by the Spirit of God!



I would that you understood the condition of your heart so you could be transformed.

The most dangerous place to be is outside of God's family and not realize it because you have just enough "church and religion" to be lukewarm and then to hang with Christians who are lukewarm too!