

THE MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT LAODICEA

SCRIPTURE: REVELATION 3:14-22

INTRODUCTION

THE LAODICEAN CHURCH WAS A CHURCH THAT CONSIDERED ITSELF TO BE SELF SUFFICIENT. IT HAD ALL THE RESOURCES, TALENT, AND FACILITIES THAT IT NEEDED. IT WAS A CHURCH WITH NO NEEDS, BUT GOD CONSIDERED IT TO IMPOVERISHED. IT HAD EVERYTHING, BUT HAD NOTHING.

I. IT WAS A CHURCH THAT CONSIDERED ITSELF SELF SUFFICIENT

REVELATION 3:17A BECAUSE THOU SAYEST, I AM RICH, AND INCREASED WITH GOODS, AND HAVE NEED OF NOTHING.

- A. IT WAS A SATISFIED CHURCH
- B. IT WAS AN UNCOMMITTED CHURCH
- C. IT WAS A NON-EVANGELISTIC CHURCH
- D. IT WAS A CHURCH WITHOUT TRUE WORSHIP

II. IT WAS A CHURCH UNAWARE OF ITS OWN TRUE CHARACTER

REVELATION 3:17B ...AND KNOWEST NOT THAT THOU ART WRETCHED, AND MISERABLE, AND POOR, AND BLIND, AND NAKED.

- A. THE TRUE CONDITION OF THIS CHURCH
 - 1. IGNORANT OF THE CANCEROUS ATTITUDE DESTROYING IT
 - 2. SPIRITUALLY WRETCHED
 - 3. SPIRITUALLY MISERABLE
 - 4. SPIRITUALLY IMPOVERISHED
 - 5. SPIRITUALLY BLIND -- NO VISION
 - 6. NAKED BEFORE GOD AND THE WORLD
 - A. ITS ATTITUDES WERE LAID BARE BEFORE ALL
 - B. ITS FLAWS AND WEAKNESSES WERE EXPOSED TO ALL
- B. GOD'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THIS CHURCH

REVELATION 3:15-16 I KNOW THY WORKS, THAT THOU ART NEITHER COLD NOR HOT: I WOULD THAT THOU WERT COLD OR HOT. SO THEN BECAUSE THOU ART LUKEWARM, AND NEITHER COLD NOR HOT, I WILL SPUE THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH.

III. CHRIST WAS SAYING TO THIS CHURCH "LET ME IN"

REVELATION 3:20 BEHOLD I STAND AT THE DOOR, AND KNOCK: IF ANY MAN HEAR MY VOICE, AND OPEN THE DOOR, I WILL COME IN TO HIM AND WILL SUP WITH HIM, AND HE WITH ME.

- A. NOTE THAT THIS VERSE IN CONTEXT WAS WRITTEN TO THE CHURCH
- B. WHAT CHRIST IS SAYING IS, "LET ME IN!"
 - 1. TO YOUR FELLOWSHIP
 - 2. TO YOUR PROBLEMS
 - 3. TO YOUR DECISIONS
 - 4. TO YOUR PLANS DREAMS AND AMBITIONS
 - 5. TO YOUR FUTURE
- C. CHRIST IS SEEKING ACCESS INTO EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE