

Lesson 9

The Letter to the Church of Laodicea: Do Not Be Passive or Proud

Revelation 3:14-22

Invite the Holy Spirit to teach and speak to you through the Word of God as you meditate on Revelation 3:14-22 every day this week.

As you read through the verses presented this week, look for a special verse to make your memory verse for the week. We will share our verses at the end of our discussion time.

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him, and will dine with him, and he with Me.”

Revelation 3:20

1. What was a new or interesting thought from last week’s lesson

Laodicea was a wealthy city in Asia Minor that was known for its banking industry and medical center where they specialized in eye treatments. It was also the judicial capital of the district.

In the historical picture of the Church that these seven churches sketch, the Laodicean church represents the church from about 1930 until the end of the age.

Notice that the Jesus does not give any praise to the church of Laodicea.

2. Discuss how Jesus describes Himself in Revelation 3:14.
3. Discuss II Corinthians 1:20 as it relates to this depiction of Jesus.
4. Jesus is the Faithful and True witness. He does not lie or even exaggerate. Read His advice to the Church at Laodicea with this in mind. Is there a particular warning for you?

5. Laodicea may have been the wealthiest of all the seven churches. Why would Jesus want to remind this church that He is the Beginning of the creation of God? See also John 1:3 and Colossians 1:16-17.
6. Describe the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:15 and 17. What do you think were their root problems? (Remember, He is talking to believers.)
7. Why does the Lord bless us with financial blessings according to Deuteronomy 8:18?
8. Compare the condition of the church at Smyrna (Lesson 5) with that of the church at Laodicea.
9. What “needs” to prosper along with all other things? Describe ways that we can make sure this happens in our lives.
10. Why do you think Matthew 19:21-23 is true?
11. Discuss how we can follow the advice of Jesus in Matthew 6:19-21 and of Paul in I Timothy 6:17-19.
12. What is the warning in Leviticus 18:25-28?
13. How can we personally make sure that our love for the Lord does not go lukewarm?

14. Discuss the counsel of the Lord in Revelation 3:18-19.
15. According to verse 19, what is the motive of the Lord's counsel?
16. How do you think we "buy" this gold mentioned in verse 18?
17. Gold needs to be purified. Discuss the following verses: Malachi 3:1-3, I Peter 1:7 and I Peter 4:12.
18. According to Jesus, will we be ashamed if we do not "buy" white (bright) garments? Discuss how this motivates you to be found faithful.
19. Discuss the concept of our "buying" something from God in Isaiah 55:1-3.
20. What can happen to our spiritual eyes according to II Corinthians 4:4 and Ephesians 1:18-19?
21. Why does the Lord discipline His children? How should we receive His discipline? See Hebrews 12:5-11.
22. Who is invited into the deep fellowship that Jesus offers in Revelation 3:20? Discuss His invitation.

23. Why do you think that we see the One who “opens and no one shuts, and who shuts and no one opens” (Revelation 3:7) is waiting for individuals to open the door in Revelation 3:20?

24. What do you think dining together represents in Revelation 3:20?

25. What is the promise of Jesus for overcomers in Revelation 3:21? See Daniel 7:13-14 and Matthew 25:31. From the context, will all believers receive this reward? Discuss.

26. Turn to the chart Section IV. Complete the portion that relates to the Church of Philadelphia.

27. Share the memory verse that you found through this week’s study and why you chose it.

28. From your meditation this week on Revelation 3:14-22, what do you want to remember?

Lecture Notes: