

#### UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF REVELATION

Revelation 3:14-22 Pastor Craig Coulter

To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. (Revelation 3:14-22 NIV)

#### TWO MARKS OF A CHRISTIAN CHURCH:

- 1. Faithfulness to the <u>Word of God</u>.
- 2. Love for one another.

### THREE SCHEMES OF THE ENEMY:

### Scheme #1. A church that is:

- Biblically knowledgeable -
- But cold.

<sup>&</sup>quot;He who has an ear, let him hear..." v. 22

## Scheme #2. A church that is:

- Spiritually aware -
- But indifferent.

Apathy – "I don't think God would..."

God is **knowable**.

# Two Ways We Fall Prey To Indifference:

- a. When we don't care to know God.
- b. When we tolerate **sin in our lives**.

God is never lukewarm toward sin.

## Scheme #3. A church that is:

- Spiritually weary –
- And falling away.

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## So HOW do we combat these schemes?

- 1. Understand who God is.
- 2. Understand who I am.
- 3. Understand our mission.