

11/20:

1. What was the connection between the Laodicean church's sense of self-sufficiency and its lukewarmness in relation to Christ?
2. What moved Jesus to give such a stern rebuke to the church?
3. How can you grow in the Christlike love that is willing to endure the pain of discipline for your spiritual healing?
4. Read Luke 12:35-48, especially verses 36-38. How do these verses help us understand Jesus coming as the master of the house?
5. If Jesus is not a homeless beggar but the Master of the house when he says, "I stand at the door and knock," how does this help us understand his amazing grace in promising to eat with us, and we with him?
6. How should that promise reassure us when we encounter rejection by others? Why should it motivate us to pursue purity and holiness?

Answers:

1. Focused on material comforts and security, they were ignorant to their real neediness, which was spiritual, “not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.”)
2. It was Jesus’ love, not hatred or indifference, that moved him to rebuke and discipline the church as Laodicea. As Proverbs makes clear, “the LORD reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights” [Proverbs 3:12])
3. Answers will vary
4. Jesus is the Master of the house who will return at an unexpected time. The duty of his people is to be found ready and obedient when he returns.
5. The Master has authority. He is so gracious as to desire close fellowship with his people.
6. Answers will vary