

## Revelation 3 – 21 February 2019

~Our Defining Issue – Part 2 of 2~

Introduction/Recap – Just Recap (don't take long)

Chapter 2-3 Jesus addresses specific messages to seven churches in Asia Minor.

They each had specific characteristics or issues that Jesus wanted to highlight.....and so do we!

Example: The Rich Young Ruler in Mark 10

We're going to learn and apply the 3 keys to overcoming and being victorious regarding the defining issue in our lives. **Here are the 3 keys to our defining issue:**

1. **Study the Source** – Jesus Himself, God Himself is and role-models what we need to be like!
  - a. The attributes said of Himself in chapter 2 & 3, he brought up in chapter 1 already.

2. **Identify the Issue** – forsaking people for tasks, want your own way, want Jesus and..., lazy, emotional start and then fade, power-hungry.
  - a. The issue raised can define your virtue or define your root sin problem.
3. **Rely on the Results** – There’s an eternal result regarding our treatment of the issue!
  - a. There is a positive AND negative outcome possible!

### Read Chapter 3 Vs 1-6 – **Sardis**

1. Vs 1a – The **SOURCE** of power and drive.
  - a. Read Zec 4:1-10
  - b. Jesus at baptism went in the power of the Spirit – Luke 4:14
  - c. Paul relied on the Spirit to empower his words, not b/c he’s a great speaker – I Cor 2:4
2. Vs 1b-3a – The **ISSUE**: Are you starting but not completing work? Are you slothful?

- a. Need to forsake our own strength and methods and rely on His power.
    - i. Read Luke 14:27-33 – Count the cost of building the tower.
  - b. John 6:53-67—eat My flesh/drink My blood.
    - i. Vs 63 – It’s the Spirit that brings the power of a resurrected life.
  - c. Read Micah 3:5-8 – Human effort only lasts for a time, but God’s Spirit empowers forever!
3. Vs 3b-6 – The **RESULTS**: Jesus will boast of you before the Father.
- a. Read Matt 10:32 – Whoever confesses Me before men, I’ll confess you before My Father.
  - b. Read Prov 22:29 – A diligent man will stand before kings.

## Read Chapter 3 Vs 7-13 – **Philadelphia**

1. Vs 7 – The **SOURCE** of strength of will.

- a. II Cor 11:21-12:5 – Paul went thru it all, but knew his strength was from the Lord.
- b. Psm 18 – The Lord is my rock!
2. Vs 8-11 – The **ISSUE**: Are you patience with adversaries knowing God will see you thru?
  - a. Joseph (Gen 50:18 & 20)
    - i. Knew that God was working good things thru his situation, even w/ his brothers.
    - ii. His brothers literally worshiped at his feet.
3. Vs 12-13 – The **RESULTS**: We will be like a rock, never to be shaken again.
  - a. It's called “entering into God's rest”!

## Read Chapter 3 Vs 14-22 – **Laodicea**

1. Vs 14 – The **SOURCE** of everything real and genuine without hypocrisy
  - a. “The beginning of the creation of God”
    - i. He's the cause of the creation of God.
    - ii. He's the reason for the creation of God.

- b. Phil 2:5-7 – “...being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal w/ God...”
  - c. John 10:30 – “I & my Father are one.”
2. Vs 15-20 – The **ISSUE**: Are you humble enough to say the honest truth about yourself in all situations?
- a. Jam 1:22 – Doers of the Word, not hearers only deceiving yourself.
  - b. I John 1:8 – If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves.
  - c. Jam 5:12 – Let your yes be yes and your no be no, lest you fall into “condemnation”..it means ‘hypocrisy’.
  - d. Our pride makes us lie to say things are better than they really are.
    - i. Vs 18 – Good news, the Lord offers us all the things we desire anyway.
      - 1. Psm 37 – Delight yourself in the law of the Lord & He’ll give u the desires..”

3. Vs 21-22 – The **RESULTS**: We’ll get to share in his image and genuineness.
  - a. John 10:34 – ye are gods
  - b. Vs 21 – Sit in His throne with Him
  - c. I John 3:2 – “...we shall be like Him...”
  - d. Read Luke 12:1-5 – nothing hidden that shall not be revealed.

### Conclusion –

What’s your defining issue?

**Study the Source:** how did Jesus role-modeled and teach how to believe, think and act.

**Identify the Issue:** Ask other people how your life is representing and honoring God?

**Rely of the Results:** God will have His word fulfilled. Do you want to be on the winning side?

NEXT WEEK: Identify how many individuals, other than God, are in this heavenly scene.