

Laodicea October 5, 2025 Seven Letters / Seven Churches

October 4, 2025



Laodicea

Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea - The Lukewarm Church

Revelation 3:14-22

Laodicea was extremely wealthy

1. They had a Booming Economy
2. It was the Banking Center of the area
3. Located on a Major Trade Route
4. The Textiles from Laodicea were coveted
5. They produced and exclusive eye salve that was exported around the world
6. **Unlike some of the other churches, Christians in Laodicea were also wealthy**
7. It would appear God had and was blessing Laodicea
8. In fact, after a major earthquake rocked the region, Laodicea refused help from the Roman Emperor

- a. They stated they didn't need anyone's help
- b. They would rebuild the city with their own wealth

Laodicea had no Water Source

1. Their weakness - they had no source of water
 - a. On one side Colasse was a source of Mountain Spring water
 - b. On the other side, Hierapolis had Hot Springs with healing water
 - c. The water in Laodicea was scarce and filled with heavy minerals - making one want to "spew it out" if they drank it
2. The water that was piped in became Lukewarm by the time it reached the city
3. Jesus used this as a metaphor for what was happening with the Church in Laodicea - **THEY HAD BECOME LUKEWARM**
4. Jesus was not saying I want my church to be cold
 - a. Cool Refreshing Mountain Water provided Life
 - b. Hot Healing Springs provided Healing

Their AFFLUENCE had EXCLUDED Jesus from their lives

1. Similar to their statement to the Roman Emperor - They didn't need any help
2. The problem was not their wealth or their influence
 - a. Abraham was extremely wealthy - but never lost focus of his dependence on God
 - Abraham was willing to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice - Genesis 22
 - Jehovah Jireh (The-Lord-Will-Provide) Genesis 22:14
 - b. Solomon had great riches, yet warned against vanity - Ecclesiastes 1
 - Insatiable desire that will lead to constant dissatisfaction
 - Futility - leading to anxiety and worry as one becomes concerned they will lose their wealth
 - Distraction - Focusing on wealth can lead one away from God's purpose or will
3. Managing wealth or success and the life it affords cannot and must not come at the expense of a weakened relationship with

Jesus

4. Too often, we let STUFF get in the way of our calling, purpose or walk with God!

God's Grace is Sufficient

1. The Apostle Paul pleaded with the Lord three times concerning the "thorn in the flesh"
2. II Corinthians 12:9 - "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."
 - a. Grace = Underserved Favor - Unmerited Favor
3. God is a good Father and does not want to see His Children "Church" Broke, busted, Hurting...
4. BUT, He is more concerned about our eternal relation with Him than our wealth in this life it it keeps us from His Presence
5. Jesus said to the Laodiceans, "Because you say, I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked..."
Revelation 3:17"

Come Buy From Me...

1. God refined in the fire (Laodicea was the Banking Center) -
Refined Gold = Character, Strength of a person when under fire
2. White Garments - (Laodicea was known for their fine textiles) -
White Robes/Garments = Purity, Righteousness
3. Anoint your eyes with eye salve (Laodicea was known for the eye salve they manufactured and exported around the world) - Yet, they were blinded by their affluence . they needed to be able to see Treasure and Wealth from God's point of view.

Behold, I Stand at the Door and Knock

1. While Jesus is THE way, THE truth and THE life... He is still knocking at doors
2. If we will open the door, He will come in and dine
 - a. What a beautiful picture of a loving Savior!
 - b. Dining in Biblical days (and still in many parts of the Eastern World) is an intimate evening filled with conversation, food and

fellowship

3. Bottom Line...

IF HE TRULY HAS YOUR HEART, HE WILL HAVE ALL OF YOU!