

Eyes on the King: Churches of Laodicea

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Date: November 29, 2020

SUMMARY

Revelation 3:14-22

The Church of Laodicea looked like they had it all together. They did all the right things, but they had fallen into the familiar trap of just going through the motions.

Jesus encourages them to invest in Jesus rather than earthly wealth. He calls them to righteousness and healing.

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.

Revelation 3:19

Jesus rebukes them from a place of love and encourages them to be earnest and intentional rather than just going through the motions. He calls them to repentance promising fellowship with Him.

Q: What does the loving “rebuke” and “discipline” of Jesus look like?

A: Two people enjoying a meal and fellowship together!

Today we will take communion together. We encourage you to join us and press in to the repentance of focusing on the loving sacrifice of Jesus!

Oh, to sit and share a meal with our loving savior!!

"For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

QUESTIONS

1. Believers ARE NOT saved/condemned by deeds, but ARE evaluated/judged by deeds
Read 1 Corinthians 3:11-15; James 2:14-17; and Luke 6:43-45 What do deeds that are an overflow of relationship look like? How does our relationship with Jesus result in bearing the fruit of good deeds?

2. In Revelation 3:16-18 Jesus says the Laodiceans are lukewarm, they think they have everything and yet in the eyes of Jesus, they have nothing. What are you relying on for your security? What of God do you find security in? What do you tend to add for additional security?

3. Are you able to experience God's love when He disciplines you? What have you learned about God through a specific time of discipline? What did you learn about yourself?

4. Read 1 Corinthians 2:12-14 Are you understanding the spiritual realities that the Spirit is teaching you? Are you living in the fullness of His potential in you?

**Get some juice(or water) and bread(crackers work too)
Take this opportunity either by yourself or with others to focus on Jesus as you take communion.**

FULL NOTES

“Don’t just sit there, do something!” -Every Parent Ever

We are not just human beings, we are also human doings

Revelation 3:14-15

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!

“I’m Jesus, and I support this message”

“**Deeds**”: things we do/“fruit”/“works”

This IS NOT SAYING that Jesus would prefer people to live like pagans and reject him.

2 Peter 3:9

...He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

This IS SAYING that Jesus wants us to distinguish ourselves!

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. . .

1 Peter 2:11-12

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your **good deeds** and glorify God on the day he visits us.

Believers ARE NOT saved/condemned by deeds, but ARE evaluated/judged by deeds

1 Corinthians 3:11-15

For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person’s work. If what has been built survives, the builder will receive a reward. If it is burned up, the builder will suffer loss but yet will be saved—even though only as one escaping through the flames.

James 2:14-17

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

Luke 6:43-45

No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Good works do not lead to salvation, but salvation does lead to works that are truly good.

Revelation 3:16

So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

You CAN'T lose your salvation, but you CAN grieve the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:30

And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Revelation 3:17

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.

Delusional: (psychology) a persistent false psychotic belief regarding the self or persons or objects outside the self that is maintained despite indisputable evidence to the contrary -Merriam-Webster

Revelation 3:18

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.

Banking = Security in Wealth

Refined Gold = Security in God through Suffering

Textiles = Focus on outward appearance (esp. "Black Wool")

White Clothes = Focus on righteousness

Revelation 19:8

Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.

Medicine = Healing through science (Aristotle: "Phrygian powder")

Salve for Eyes = Healing through revelation

Ephesians 1:18

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

Revelation 3:19

Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.

Hebrews 12:5-6

And have you completely forgotten this word of encouragement that addresses you as a father addresses his son? It says, 'My son, do not despise the Lord's **discipline**, and do not resent his **rebuke**, because the Lord **disciplines** those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

Rebuke: To convince with solid, compelling evidence, especially to expose (prove wrong, correct).

Discipline: To train up a child, so they mature and realize their full potential (development). This requires necessary discipline (training), which includes administering chastisement (punishment).

Acts 7:22

Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.

2 Timothy 2:25

Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth

Earnest: To bubble over because so hot (boiling); to burn with zeal; to be deeply committed to something, with the implication of accompanying desire – 'to be earnest, to set one's heart on, to be completely intent upon'

Repent: To think differently afterwards (after a change of mind).

Revelation 3:20

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.

Q: What does the loving “rebuke” and “discipline” of Jesus look like?

A: Two people enjoying a meal and fellowship together!

Revelation 3:21

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.

Revelation 3:22

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

1 Corinthians 2:12-14

What we have received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words. The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

COMMUNION