



Church in Laodicea

7 Letters

Revelation 3:14-22 (ESV)

September 20, 2020

BACKGROUND

Laodicea was one of the richest commercial centers in the world. It was known for its banking, fine clothes and a famous medical school.

14 *And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation.*

15 *I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! **16** So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.*

DISTINCTION

Jesus has no praise for this church.
He also has no rebuke for false teaching, idolatry or immorality.

17 *For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.*

GEORGE LADD

“The church that is prospering materially and outwardly can easily fall into the self-deception that her outward prosperity is the measure of her spiritual prosperity.”

18 *I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see.*

FAITH IN RICHES VS. FAITH IN CHRIST

“No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

Matthew 6:24

19 *Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.*

CROSS REFERENCE

Hebrews 12:6 & Proverbs 3:11-12

20 *Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.*

EAT or SUP

The *deipnon* was the main meal of the day and was a leisurely affair, not a hurried snack.

21 *To the one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. **22** *He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*”*