

LAODICEA (3:14-22)

Introduction:

“Oh, that you were cold or hot” or “Give me all your hate or all your heart.”

A. **The Dynamic Christ!** (3:14)

1. The All-Conquering One! (14a)

- The God of Amen carries the meaning of finality.
- Revelation begins and ends with two double-amens. (1:6-7 and 22:20-21)

2. The All-Convicting One! (14b)

- The God of Truth.
- He neither dilutes nor distorts.

3. The All-Controlling One! (14c)

- The God who is the origin of creation.
- He controls it all.

B. **The Deluded Church!** (3:15-17)

1. Their compromise is nauseating. (3:15-16)

- This is a spiritual condition.
- Their curse is neutrality – they have been reduced to room temperature.

- This condition is illustrated by the story of Lot.
 - A condition without hope.
2. They were ignorant of their own condition. (3:7)
- The symbolism of hot and cold – spiritually.
 - Luke people offer no confrontation of the world and distinctive witness of Jesus.
 - The Archetype of the present-day church.
 - Only one conclusion.

C. **The Choice!** (3:18-19)

1. Restoration of spiritual values!
- They took pride in their wealth and said they were rich, but Jesus said they were poor.
 - Conflicting value systems.
 - Eternal riches are appropriated by the blood of Jesus and are available only by faith. Isaiah 55:1
2. Restoration of spiritual virtues!_(3:18)
- This indicates the righteousness required to come into God's presence.
 - Laodicea was a great center for the manufacturing of clothing.
 - Isaiah 61:10 God's provision of "**garments of salvation**" and the "**robe of righteousness.**"

3. Restoration of spiritual vision! (3:18)

- Worldliness clouds spiritual vision.
- Laodicea was famous for its eye salve.
- Proverbs 29:18

4. **“As many as I love, I rebuke, discipline, be zealous therefore, and repent!”** (3:19)

- Can a church recapture spiritual values, spiritual virtue, and spiritual vision?
- The answer is simply REPENT.

5. **What can we learn from these churches?**

D. **Christ’s challenge!** (3:20-22)

1. The Lord is standing outside the church at Laodicea. This is the primary meaning of this verse.

2. However, it is legitimate to apply this text to sinners.

3. **What a view of Jesus!**

- In an act of unbelievable condescension, he requests permission to enter.
- Three promises.

4. The last word is to the overcomer.

Conclusion: