



Revelation 3:19-22

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The Church at Laodicea

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(Conclusion)

Wishing you each a Peaceful & Blessed Memorial Day!

Class notes, info & Directory posted to www.SJCalvaryBerean.com or scan the QR code



- i. **Total # of Americans killed in all Wars:** _____
- ii. **New Christian Movie "Sight" (BOGO promotion this weekend)**
 - a. discount at <https://www.angel.com/tickets/sight> ... Promo code: "Sight"
- iii. **Understanding The Times:** Jan Markell interviews interviews Pastors Mark Hitchcock and Mark Henry. When the world lacks a leader, there are terrible consequences. That is why it is anticipating the ultimate diabolical leader. And that is why Mark Hitchcock calls this the most dangerous time in history. **Also** discussed:
 - a. As America steps down in its role as a global 'City on a Hill', who will step in to fill this role?
 - b. How can America's 'global economy' be replaced?
 - c. Who will step in: China? Russia?
 - d. Wars will become rampant as America withdraws
 - e. The lack of a World Leader leaves the perfect vacuum for the 'little horn' to rise-up.
 - f. **OliveTreeViews:** <https://bit.ly/31WMM0s> **YouTube:** <https://tinyurl.com/24mdx3uh>
- iv. **Understanding the Times Prophecy Conference, June 6, 5:00 PM-7:00 PM**
 - a. <https://www.markhenryministries.com/special-events>
 - v. **Amir Tsarfati Weekly Update:** <https://tinyurl.com/bdh5nbjf>
 - vi. **Curtis Bowers Weekly Agenda:** "The Great Crossroads: Patriotism or Globalism - <https://tinyurl.com/yh3s6xx2>"
 - a. Documentary: "Pagan America: The Decline of Christianity & the Dark Age to come" <https://tinyurl.com/2xrbmc97>
 - vii. **News of the Week: The Pine Tree Flag**
 - a. <https://tinyurl.com/yck6fzyx>
 - viii. **Is Biden Ceding Away our 'Health autonomy'?**
 - a. <https://tinyurl.com/562m73bs>

II. Revelation 3:14 - 18 A Study of The church at Laodicea (Conclusion)

- a. Revelation 3:19-22
 - i. ¹⁹ *Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.* 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 will dine with him, and he with Me.* ²¹ *He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame 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."*
 - b. **What Jesus wants the church of Laodicea to do (verses 18-20)**
 - i. **As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten:** With such a sharp rebuke, had Jesus lost His love for this errant church? Not at all. Jesus' great love was expressed in His rebuke. **"It is, in fact, God's final punishment to leave a man alone."** (Barclay)
 - ii. The word for **love** in "*as many as I love...*" is not *agape*, but *phileo*. Jesus' heart to this church is, "Even though I **rebuke** you and **chasten** you, I am still your friend. I love you deeply as My friend."
 - iii. **"The word here used for 'love' is a very choice one; it is one which signifies an intense personal affection."** (Spurgeon)
 - iv. **"Therefore be zealous and repent."** Jesus commanded Laodicea to make a decision to repent, and to continue in *zeal & earnestness*. Jesus is saying 'Turn your way around! Don't look to your own riches & resources, because **YOU'RE OUTA CASH!**'
 - v. The ancient Greek word **zealous** comes from the same word as "hot" in Revelation 3:16. Though Jesus detested their lukewarmness, He would really rather them be *hot* with zeal rather than cold with apathy.

- vi. We need to make *our life* following Jesus, not just a hobby or an occasional activity. This goes against the spirit of our age, where dedication is seen as **“fanaticism” & “extremism”**
- c. **A “Lukewarm Church” gets a GREAT Invitation (verse 20)**
- i. **“Behold, I stand at the door and knock”**: Jesus gave this lukewarm church *The Great Invitation*. But notice, **HE IS ON THE OUTSIDE!** Fellowship only happens as we respond to His knock, which is made to all: **“If anyone hears my voice...”**
 - ii. The idea of Jesus at the door applies to the sinner and to the saint just the same. **Jesus wants to come in to us, and dine with us**, in the sense of having a deep, meaningful relationship.
 - iii. I stand at the door: Sadly, Jesus stood on the outside, knocking to get in. If the church at Philadelphia was “The Church of the Open Door,” then Laodicea had “The Church of the Excluded Jesus.”
 - iv. **“I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door...”** - This statement of Jesus expressed a profound mystery:
 - v. Why did Jesus stand outside the door? _____
 - vi. Why did He knock? _____
 - vii. Why did He wait until someone opens the door? _____
 - viii. He had every right to break down the door, or enter some other way on His own accord, but He didn't. The sovereign, creator, omnipotent Jesus lowered Himself to work out His eternal plan by wooing the cooperation of the human heart.
 - ix. “The occupant must open the door. That is, he must repent of his pride, his self-sufficiency, his human wisdom, and his cowardly neutrality.” - (Henry Morris)
- d. **Is this the only time Jesus ‘knocks at the door to our heart’? (verse 20)**
- i. Jesus comes to the door as the lover in the Song of Solomon.
 - ii. This is similar to - or perhaps a quotation of - **Song of Solomon 5:2**
“It is the voice of my beloved! He knocks, saying, ‘open for me, my sister, my love.’”
 - iii. The key to opening the door is to first hear His voice. When we give attention to what Jesus says, then we can be rescued from our own lukewarmness and enter into a “zealous” relationship with Him.
 - iv. Jesus ONLY WANTS impassioned, dedicated, committed, and persevering lovers of Him
- e. **A Glorious Promise if the GREAT INVITATION is accepted**
- i. **“I will come into him...”** - **What a glorious promise!**
 - ii. When Jesus said dine with him, He spoke of a specific meal known as the *deipnon*. “The *deipnon* was the main meal of the day and was a leisurely affair, not a hurried snack.” (L. Morris)
 - iii. This speaks of *fellowship*. This speaks of a *depth* to the relationship.
 - iv. **“Supper (deipnon) was the main meal of the day. This was the meal at which a man sat and talked for long, for now there was time, for work was ended... it is not a mere courtesy visit, paid in the passing, which Jesus Christ offers to us. He desires to come in and to sit long with us, and to wait as long as we wish him to wait.”** (Barclay)
 - v. **This is where Jesus wants us, in the place of fellowship with Him.** Everything He said to the Laodicean church up to this point must be seen in light of this loving desire for fellowship. “Rebuke and chastisement are no signs of rejection from Christ, but of His abiding and pleading love, even to the lukewarm and careless.” (Alford)
 - vi. **“If anyone ...”** - Notice that Jesus gave the call to *individuals*. He didn't say, “If any church,” but if anyone.
 - vii. “We must not talk about setting the church right, we must pray for grace each one for himself, for the text does not say, ‘If the church will open the door,’ but ‘If any man hear my voice and open the door.’ It must be done by individuals: the church will only get right by each man getting right.” (Spurgeon)
- f. **Conclusion: The 7 Churches in Historical Perspective**
- i. Why did God single out these 7 churches? There were other churches in the region that weren't written to (such as the church at Collosse).
 - ii. Paul addressed seven churches in his epistles: Rome, Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Colosse, Phillipi, and Thessalonica
 - iii. Jesus gives 7 “Kingdom Parables” (Parable of the Sower; the Tares; Mustard Seed; the Leaven; the Hidden Treasure; the Pearl; Drawing in the Net)
 - iv. 7 is God's number of _____, so Jesus & Paul wrote to 7 churches as an indication that they were in fact speaking to the **‘complete church’**, not just these 7 congregations. Speaking to 7 churches means speaking to the church in perfection, **in completion and totality**.

