

Message to Laodicea

Revelation 3:14–22

SLIDE 06

A Church
That Had It All —
But Lacked Christ

Ruins of Laodicea

The Amen,
the faithful and true witness,
the beginning of the
creation of God.

Revelation 3:14

1 Christ Introduces Himself (v. 14)

"These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God."

- **The Amen** – Christ is the divine "Yes" to all of God's promises (Isa 65:16; 2 Cor 1:20).
- **The faithful and true witness** – Perfectly trustworthy, in contrast to Laodicea's unfaithfulness.
- **The beginning of the creation of God** – Christ's pre-existence and cosmic authority (Col 1:15–18).

2 Their Lukewarm Condition (v. 15–16)

"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot... I will spue thee out of my mouth."

- Christ condemns their spiritual indifference.
- Lukewarm provokes His rejection.
- He would prefer outright opposition to half-hearted faith.

3 Self-Sufficiency and Spiritual Poverty (v. 17)

"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:"

- A prosperous city, but a self-reliant church.
- They functioned without daily dependence on the Lord.
- Start depending on God.

Proverbs 3:5–6 (KJV)

5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart;
And lean not unto thine own understanding.
6 In all thy ways acknowledge him,
And he shall direct thy paths.

Psalms 62:5–8 (KJV)

5 My soul, wait thou only upon God;
For my expectation is from him.
6 He only is my rock and my salvation.
7 In God is my salvation and my glory:
The rock of my strength, and my refuge,
is in God.
8 Trust in him at all times; ye people,
Pour out your heart before him:
God is a refuge for us. Selah.

7 The Promise to Overcomers (v. 21)

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

- Believers will share His throne and authority.
- Not merely a reward, but participatory governance.
- A radical elevation of the redeemed into Christ's own position of cosmic authority.

8 A Command to Listen (v. 22)

"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

- **A COMMAND TO LISTEN!**

4 Christ's Counsel (v. 18)

"I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire... and white raiment... and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."



Gold Tried in the Fire

Faith tested through trials proves more precious than gold.
1 Peter 1:7



White Raiment

Signifies holiness – a pure walk.



Eyesalve

Heal your eyes to see things the way God does.

5 Discipline from a Loving Christ (v. 19)

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."

- Discipline does not mean He doesn't love them – it means He loves them.
- Hebrews 12:5–6 – "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth..."

6 Christ Still Stands at the Door (v. 20)

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

- Laodicea had shut Christ out.
- He still wants to come in, but He is not forcing His way in.
- He offers intimate fellowship to those who hear His voice and open to Him.

The Water at Laodicea

Hierapolis Hot springs



Hot, mineral springs

Hot water could be useful for bathing and therapeutic purposes.

Colossae Cool water



Cooler water from the higher terrain

Cold water could be refreshing and life-giving.

Laodicea Lukewarm water



Imported, mineral-bearing water supply

Water could become unappealing and unsuitable for refreshing use.

Like its water, the church at Laodicea was spiritually lukewarm, neither zealous nor refreshed, and so was found unacceptable to the Lord.



Behold,
I stand at the door,
and knock...

Revelation 3:20

Will you open the door?