

Sermon Discussion

30 May 2021

Read Revelation 3:14-22

Dig Deeper

Jesus Christ called Himself the “**Amen**” (literally “*so be it*”). We should probably understand this title as a testimony to His ability to produce what He predicts. As a “**witness**,” His testimony to the situation in Laodicea was trustworthy.

The Laodiceans had a reputation for saying and doing whatever was necessary to preserve their own wellbeing. In contrast, Jesus spoke the truth. The “**beginning [Origin] of God’s creation**” sets forth His authority to pass judgment. The Laodiceans were creative, but Jesus alone was the Creator (see John 1:3; Colossians 1:16).

The Lord’s **spitting** (literally “*vomiting*”) does not mean anyone would lose their salvation. The Scriptures do not teach this possibility. This description simply indicates His intense disgust.

Jesus did not mean that He would rather we be spiritually cold than that we be spiritually lukewarm either. He did mean that He would rather we be spiritually refreshing or healthful, as cold or hot water, rather than that we be spiritually bland, as lukewarm water.

1. Jesus’ criticism of this church is that so many of the Christ followers were lukewarm. What has been your understanding of the word “lukewarm” in terms of its association with Christians?
2. Why is Jesus’ declaration to be the “Amen” and the “faithful and true witness” and the “beginning of God’s creation” in v. 1 so fitting for the Laodiceans?
3. Take a moment to recount the three things that Laodicea was famous for during the writing of this letter (finances, black wool, eye salve). How does this factor into what Jesus says to them in v. 17? Do we (or our churches) think that we are self-reliant and have no need of Jesus? How does this happen and what does it look like?
4. In v. 18, Jesus mentions three things that they need to get from him: refined gold, white clothes, and salve for their eyes. These are things the Laodiceans would have thought they had no need for. What things in our culture today give us a false sense of security? What might Jesus say we need from Him today?

Application & Prayer

- We have completed the first three chapters of Revelation. What one truth has stood out to you the most that you will take away and practice or treasure in your personal life?
- Where are you most at risk of heading toward lukewarm living? Pray through the remedy to lukewarm living that Jesus outlines in verses 18-21.
- Meditate on this: *“Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.”* Revelation 3:19