

Christ rebukes the Laodicean church because of His love. He calls us to follow His ways zealously. **He calls for repentance!**

Knowing God loves us and wants us to be in right standing with Him, what shall we do? **REPENT!**

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### Open The Door!

*"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."* (Revelation 3:20)

This verse is often used evangelistically, but it is not an evangelistic passage. Yes, Jesus said He would draw all men unto Himself, and He does, but this verse is in the context of lukewarm Christians.

These believers claim Christ, **but He is outside of their lives.** Jesus wants to have sweet fellowship with you... **so invite Him in!**

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### Some Lukewarm Will Overcome!

*"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."* (Revelation 3:21)

This verse is encouraging! It tells us that some of those who have been cooled by the allure of

this world will **OVERCOME!**

Better yet, these overcoming, formerly lukewarm believers can wind up in the **most significant place in Glory... sitting in the throne with Jesus!**

Jesus overcame, not lukewarmness but the temptations to be lukewarm, and He is seated in the throne with God the Father!

And He offers us to sit with Him in His throne. This thought is mind-blowingly beyond comprehension!

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### Conclusion: GROSS DARKNESS

*"For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee."* (Isaiah 60:2)

Look around! If you don't see **GROSS** darkness, you indeed are blind. This world is excessively dark.

God's desire is for His people to be **brilliantly bright... showing the glory of the Lord!**

It is time to remove the bushel basket from covering the light of Christ in you... and **UNBLIND** people with **His marvelous light!**

*"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light;"* (1 Peter 2:9)

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### Can You Hear?

*"He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."* (Revelation 3:13)

Sadly, some in the body of Christ today cannot, or perhaps more accurately, will not hear. Many prefer to have their **ears tickled** rather than embrace the hard truth.

*"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,"* (2 Timothy 4:3)

The end times in which we live assuredly reflect this dullness of hearing.

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### Are You Hot? Cold? Or Indifferent?

*"I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot."* (Revelation 3:15)

Christ tells us that the church of Laodicea was not hot... they were not burning with love for Jesus. They were also not cold... they were not clear enemies of the Gospel.

Believers must be concerned if they look and act no differently than the ungodly masses

# THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA

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around them. Jesus has ordained us to live in a manner that glorifies His Father.

*"Giving **no offense in anything**, that the **ministry be not blamed:**" (2 Corinthians 6:3)*

As we survey the church these last days, we see that lukewarmness seems to be everywhere. Many churches can be seen claiming to follow Jesus. Yet, they not only live ungodly lives but even endorse vile leaders and lifestyles.

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## Are You Making God Sick?

*"So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, **I will vomit you out of My mouth.**" (Revelation 3:16)*

Lukewarmness is such an atrocity to God that He states that it makes Him vomit! Being lukewarm makes God sick!

Making God sick should be taken very seriously! Scripture uses the compelling imagery of "**throwing up**" to describe what God will do to the lukewarm.

*"Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye **sorrowed to repentance:** for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing." (2 Corinthians 7:9)*

Paul demonstrates that genuine followers of Jesus will warn and rebuke others. Paul was not happy that he caused them sorrow, but he rejoiced that their sorrow led them to repentance.

Today, lukewarm churches define repentance as nothing more than "changing your mind." In contrast, the definition of the Bible word for repentance (metanoia) includes "reformation" and "reversal." True repentance is turning away from sin and to God.

Making God sick cannot be a good thing! To the lukewarm... **REPENT!**

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## Self-Sufficiency = Blindness

*"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:**" (Revelation 3:17)*

Claiming to believe in Jesus but living a wretched life is a sure sign of our times. So many people think they do not need God... yet often they claim to be Christians.

Many believers make claims of blessing and prosperity while not being aware of their desperate need for God.

Our world is filled with those who think they are OK and have nothing to worry about. Some consider themselves as better than others because of what they believe to be their morally superior ideologies.

Blindness is a clear earmark of society today. Some are so blind that they cannot distinguish between a man and a woman. Perversion is rampant, and many call it enlightenment.

*"**Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!**" (Isaiah 5:20)*

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## Godly Counsel

*"**I counsel thee** to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." (Revelation 3:18)*

God's intense desire is godliness for and from His people.

Some on-fire believers **call for repentance and holiness from the body of Christ.** Sadly, these are often ridiculed as unloving and arrogant.

God is instructing us to become **rich in His Word**, to be **clothed in His righteousness**, and to **buy eye medication so we can see.** Will we listen to His counsel? Or will we remain blind and naked?

It is wisdom to take God's advice!

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## You Are Loved! REPENT!

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

(Revelation 3:19)

God loves us so much that He added this **call to repentance** in His Word. Lukewarm believers have a chance so long as they have breath.