

III. RECOGNIZE THE SYMPTOMS OF LUKEWARMNESS

“¹⁷ ... *that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—*” Revelation 3:17b

- A. Wretched
- B. Miserable
- C. Poor
- D. Blind
- E. Naked

IV. APPLY THE TREATMENT FOR LUKEWARMNESS

“¹⁸ *I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.*

¹⁹ *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. 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 dine with him, and he with Me.*

²¹ *To him who overcomes I will grant to sit 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.’”*

- A. Be zealous and repent.
- B. Listen to the counsel of the Lord.
- C. Receive God’s grace.
- D. Humble yourself.
- E. Allow him to be the center of your life.

GROW IN PASSION

7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION: GROWING IN CHRIST

Laodicea: Growing In Passion

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Introduction:

- A. Imagine if our church received a letter from Jesus Himself. Would His words bring commendation...or...correction? We do, in fact, have such letters.

“¹⁰ I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet,

¹¹ saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” and, “What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

¹² Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,

¹³ and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.” Revelation 1:10-13

The book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible, reveals letters that Jesus wrote to seven churches. These words are just as relevant today as in the first century.

- B. In this teaching series- Seven Churches Of Revelation- we’ll read Jesus’ seven letters to seven churches. We will learn how to grow in Christ and experience His blessings.

Aug 18

Ephesus: Growing In Love

Aug 25

Smyrna: Growing In Suffering

Sept 1

Pergamos: Growing In Truth

Sept 8

Thyatira: Growing In Purity

Sept 15

Sardis: Growing In Life

Sept 22

Philadelphia: Growing In Evangelism

TODAY

Laodicea: Growing In Passion

- C. **TEXT:** Revelation 3:14-22

HOW TO GROW IN PASSION

LAODICEA was an ancient city by the Lycus River valley in Asia Minor (Turkey of today), and it was one of the three cities at this valley mentioned by Paul in Colossians 4:13.

“For I bear him witness that he (Epaphras from Colossae) has worked hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hierapolis.”
Colossians 4:13

It was a very rich town famous for banking and textile industry especially wool cloth and fashion products. Ancient sources say that the city was founded in honor of Laodice, the wife of Seleucid King Antiochus II, in the third century B.C. It lies in the trade route of the ancient Romans roads and that was one of the secrets of its success.

In 2020 they unearthed a house with 18 columns and many rooms, 2 halls and a meeting place for Christian worship showing wealthy Christian families lived there. This is one of the oldest house churches in the history of Christianity. That is going with the warning of the Lord to this church Revelation 3:17 *“For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.”*

I. KNOW JESUS

“¹⁴ And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:

¹⁵ ‘I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.’” Revelation 3:14-15

A. Jesus is the Amen.

“²⁴ Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.” John 5:24

B. Jesus is Faithful.

“²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”

I Thessalonians 5:24

C. Jesus is the True Witness.

“¹¹ Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness.

¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?

¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.” John 3:11-13

D. Jesus is the Beginning of God’s Creation.

“¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

John 1:1-3

II. UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR LUKEWARMNESS

“¹⁶ So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

¹⁷ Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know ...” Revelation 3:16-17a

A. Worldly Possessions (Matthew 6:24).

B. Self-Independent (Luke 9:23).

C. Self-Satisfaction (John 15:5).

D. Self-Deception (Jeremiah 2:13).