

The 12th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 12, 2018

“Letters to the 7 Churches ~ Laodicea”

Revelation 3:1-14-22



JESUS' DESCRIPTION

#1. He is the _____.

“Whoever asks for a blessing in the land will be blessed by the God of Truth.” (Isaiah 65:16)

Hebrew *amen* =

In English ‘amen’ is used:

“Verily, Verily, I say unto you” or
“Very truly I tell you.” (John 1:51)

Greek *amen* =

“For all of God’s promises have been fulfilled in Christ with a resounding “Yes!” And through Christ, our “Amen” (which means “Yes”) ascends to God for his glory.” (2 Corinthians 1:20)

#2. He is the _____.

martys =

Witnesses Must Satisfy 3 Essential Conditions:

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-
-

“I am the way, the truth, and the life...” (John 14:6)

#3. He is the _____.

arche =

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.” (1 John 1:1-3)

“Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him. He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.” (Col 1:15-17)

JESUS' CRITICISM

“I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth! You say, ‘I am rich. I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing!’ And you don’t realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.” (Revelation 3:15-17)

I know your works =

#1. Jesus criticises the Laodiceans for bring _____.

“...you are neither hot nor cold. I wish you were one of the other.” (Rev 3:15)

cold = *psuchros* =

hot = *zestos* =

lukewarm = *chliaros* =

Spiritually hot =

Spiritually cold =

Spiritually lukewarm =

“They will appear to have a godly life, but they will not let its power change them. Stay away from such people.” (2 Timothy 3:5)

#2. Jesus criticises the Laodiceans for being _____.

“You say, ‘I am rich. I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing!’ And you don’t realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked. So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.” (Revelation 3:17-18)

The People of Laodicea Prided Themselves on 3 Things

#1. They prided themselves on their _____.

Instead Jesus says they are:

“buy gold refined in the fire.” (Rev 3:18)

gold =

“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold.” (1 Peter 1:7)

#2. They prided themselves on their _____.

Instead Jesus says they are:

“...and white robes to clothe you and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen...” (Rev 3:18)

In the ancient world to be stripped naked was the worst:

“I will let nations look on your nakedness, and kingdoms on your shame.” (Nahum 3:5)

To be dressed in fine clothes was the greatest:

“Quick! Bring the finest robe in the house and put it on him. Get a ring for his finger and sandals for his feet” (Luke 15:21)

white robes =

#3. They prided themselves on their _____.

Instead Jesus says they are:

“..and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.” (Rev 3:18)

“There is none so blind as those who will not see.” (Matthew Henry)

“For we live by faith and not by sight.” (2 Corinthians 5:7)

According to Jesus, the Laodiceans were _____, despite their bank accounts; _____, despite their textile industry; and _____, despite their eye medication. As a result, they were no longer effective in their

witness; they were too _____ too self-centred, self-satisfied, and _____ . They had lost their spiritual _____ .

JESUS' COMMAND

“I correct and discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.” (Rev 3:19-20)

correct = *elencho* =

discipline = *paideuo* =

Jesus was correcting and disciplining the Laodiceans because:

“For the Lord disciplines those whom he loves, and chastises every child whom he accepts.” (Hebrews 12:6)

- **Jesus commands them to _____.**

***metanoeo* =**

repent =

- **Jesus commands them to _____.**

“Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.” (Revelation 3:20)

The message is clear:

“... We throw open our doors to God and discover at the same moment that He has already thrown open his door to us!” (Romans 5:1)

“Christ will live in you as you open the door and invite him in.” (Ephesians 3:17)

JESUS' PROMISE

A place with Me on My throne =



**What has the Spirit said to you over these last 7 weeks?
What are you going to do about it?**