

## QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What was Christ's rebuke to the church of Laodicea?
2. What is lukewarmness or indifference?
3. What is wrong with the "need of nothing" attitude in the context of verse 17?
4. Christ counsels the church at Laodicea to "buy of me gold tried in the fire". What is this?
5. How should we accept chastisement from the Lord?

### SUMMARY:

Laodicea, the last of the seven churches, was not rebuked for false teachings, but for a spiritual sickness more cancerous than any of the others. It was a spirit of indifference; half-hearted Christians, being so content with their earthly attainments that they neglected the call to serve God.

They were urged, just as we are, to seek only the things that are spiritual, that have an eternal value and to be clothed with the white raiment of righteousness that only Jesus can give us.

The invitation of the Lord is given to all men to open the heart's door and let Jesus come in. He longs to dwell in our hearts and fill us with His grace and power that we might live righteously before Him.<sup>[SoF:9]</sup> He wants to fellowship with us. We ought to desire His fellowship too.

### NOTES:

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<sup>[SoF:9]</sup> We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ. <sup>[SoF:14]</sup> We believe in the exercise of discipline by the church in order to deal with the presence of sin in the lives of its members.

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #5

November 1, 2020

Fourth Quarter

### CHRIST WARNS LAODICEA

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**LESSON TEXT:** *Revelation 3:14-22*

**LESSON SETTING:** Christ warning the church in Laodicea.

**TIME:** Approximately 96 A.D.

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**I. CHRIST'S REBUKE.** <sup>[SoF:14]</sup> Revelation 3:14-17

- A. Half-hearted (vs. 15) 2 Kings 13:18-19; 2 Chronicles 25:2
- B. Indifference (vs. 16) Psalm 123:4; Matthew 24:12
- C. Earthly Treasures (vs. 17) Psalm 49:10; 1 Timothy 6:7
- D. Spiritually Destitute (vs. 17) Lamentations 2:9; Amos 8:11

**II. CHRIST'S COUNSEL.** Revelation 3:18-19

- A. Seek Spiritual Treasures (vs. 18) Matthew 6:20, 19:21; Luke 12:33; Colossians 3:2
- B. Seek White Raiment (vs. 18) Isaiah 61:10; Revelation 3:5

**III. CHRIST'S INVITATION.** Revelation 3:20-22

- A. His Knock (vs. 20) Psalm 34:18; Acts 17:27
- B. His Call (vs. 20) Ezekiel 33:11; Matthew 22:3; 2 Corinthians 5:20
- C. Receive His Word (vs. 20) Luke 10:39; Acts 2:41; James 1:21
- D. Fellowship with Him (vs. 20) Luke 24:15; 1 Corinthians 1:9; 1 John 1:3

**GOLDEN TEXT:** *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

**NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON:** Revelation 4:1-11; 5:1-14

**SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES:** Isaiah 6:1-12; Hebrews 1:1-14

**QUARTERLY THEME:** Christ, The Triumphant Lord

**TOPIC:** THE VISION OF GOD'S THRONE

**INTRODUCTION:**

In this lesson we have the vision that John saw. He was told to come up hither, to heaven, to see the things that must come hereafter. We must keep this in mind in the continuing study of Revelation. The vision of things to come are as a view from heaven.

As John saw the One on the throne He appeared as Jasper, clear brilliant stone (victory); and Sardius, a red stone (the blood of Christ). Truly a wondrous revelation, but not the order. While on earth, the order is reversed as noted by the jewels on the breastplate worn by the Jewish High Priest. The blood of Christ must come first so that we can have victory. The rainbow is the sign of the covenant made with Noah after the flood. It appeared like an emerald, green in color that likely denotes endurance.

The 24 elders were present before the throne. There are many explanations of their importance. The four beasts that appeared before the throne continually praised God day and night. In this chapter He is praised as Creator. In chapter 5, they worship Christ as Redeemer.

In chapter 5 we have a view of the book written and sealed. Let us note several things in this chapter:

- 1) The book fully written, closed and sealed with seven seals, indicating finality and privacy.
- 2) All creatures express inability even to look upon this book.
- 3) John's sorrow that no one was qualified to open the book.
- 4) The Lion of Judah declared to have overcome and to be ready to open the book.

**CENTRAL TRUTH:** Christ is in control of the universe and will assert His authority in due time.

**GOLDEN TEXT: *WEEP NOT: BEHOLD, THE LION OF THE TRIBE OF JUDAH, THE ROOT OF DAVID, HATH PREVAILED TO OPEN THE BOOK, AND TO LOOSE THE SEVEN SEALS THEREOF.***

Revelation 5:5

John had a view of the book fully written and sealed with seven seals. No man was found worthy to open the seals and John wept bitterly that no one was worthy. Then one of the elders told him not to weep because one was found who **was** able to open the book. He is the Lord Jesus, the Root of David, the Lion of the tribe of Judah. He is able because He is the Son of God. **He is not a man** as many would have us think. May we repeat, **He is the Son of God.** He alone is able to provide our salvation and to establish our hope for eternity. He alone can reveal all of God's plans and only when we shall be able to receive them.

----- (Intro continued from previous page) -----

- 5) The slain Lamb (symbolizing sacrifice) in the midst of the throne with seven horns of perfect (complete) power and seven eyes of utter (complete) discernment—the seven spirits of God.
- 6) His formal coming and taking the book from the hand of God and all creation's celebration thereof.
- 7) Worship founded now, not only on creation but on **redemption** -- "*Worthy art thou ... for thou wast slain.*"  
See verses 9 and 10. The angels also join in singing this new song, 10,000 times 10,000 (100 million) and thousands of thousands. Try to imagine the magnitude of the mighty singing of this song heard by every creature. Will we be a part in this wonderful revelation?

**DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF November 2 – 8**

- M. Law of the Kinsman Redeemer. Leviticus 25:47-55
- T. A Stake in the Future. Jeremiah 32:6-15
- W. The Longing for Redemption. Romans 8:16-23
- T. The Promised Inheritance. Ephesians 1:3-14
- F. \*A View of God's Throne. Revelation 4:1-11
- S. \*A Book with Seven Seals. Revelation 5:1-7
- S. \*The Adoration of the Lamb. Revelation 5:8-14

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