

LUKEWARM LAODICEA
REV. 3:14-22 / 6-6-18 / WED

INTRODUCTION

- A. The city of Laodicea-3:14a-- **“To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:**
1. Founded in 253 B.C. by Antiochus II a Seleucid King who named it after his wife, Laodice.
 2. Built on a high plateau with little water supply.
 3. Water brought in by aqueducts from two places. Hot Spring water from Hierapolis and cold water from Colossae.
 4. Wealthy due to three sources.
 - a. Banking Center.
 - b. Expensive black wool production.
 - c. Eye salve.
 5. Rebuilt after an earthquake in 61 A.D.
- B. The vision of Christ-3:14b—**“...These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation.**
1. Seen earlier in 1:5.
 2. Three pictures of Christ.
 - a. Jesus is the truthful God-**“Amen”**
 - b. Jesus is the truthful witness—**“..the faithful and true witness...”**
 - c. Jesus is the true ruler—**“...the ruler of God’s creation.**
- C. The purpose of the letter.
1. Practical- message to the church at Laodicea.

2. Prophetic-church era covering 1900 to now.
3. Personal-to churches and Christians today.

I. THE PROBLEMS IN LAODICEA

- A. They had a passion problem-v.15a—**“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot....”**
- B. They had a possession problem-v. 17a—**“ You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing....”**
- C. They had a perception problem-v.17b—**“... But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.”**

II. THE PRESCRIPTION FOR LAODICEA.

- A. Jesus’ announcement to Laodicea.
 1. His desire for them-v.15b—**“... I wish you were either one or the other!...”**
 2. His disgust of them-v.16—**“So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”**
- B. Jesus’ answer for Laodicea.
 1. They need true riches-v.18a—**“ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich...”**
 2. They need true righteousness-v.18b—**“... and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness...”**
 3. They need true revelation (about themselves)-v.18c—**“... and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.”**
- C. Jesus’ advice to Laodicea.

1. A word of explanation-v.19a—“ **Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline.....**”
2. A word of exhortation-v.19b—“... **So be earnest and repent.**”
3. A word of request-vv.20—“ **Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.**
4. A word of promise-vv21-22—“**21 To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22 Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**”