I. THE PROBLEMS IN LAODICEA

A. First, they had a passion problem—v. 15a—“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot....”

B. Second, they had a possession problem—v. 17a—“You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing....’”

C. Third, 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’ first prescription for their spiritual problems involved two announcements to this church.

1. First, Jesus announced his desire for them to change their present spiritual condition—v. 15b—“... I wish you were either one or the other!...” Why did Jesus say this?

2. Second, Jesus announced His disgust with them because they remained lukewarm—v. 16—“So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”

B. Jesus’ second prescription for this church involved three answers for their spiritual problems.

1. First, they need true riches—v. 18a—“I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich...” & Matthew 6:19.

2. Second, they need true righteousness—v. 18b—“... and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness...” & Matthew 6:25 and 33

3. Third, they need true revelation (about themselves)—v. 18c—“... and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.” & Matthew 7:3-5

C. Jesus’ third prescription for this church involved four words of advice.
1. First, there is a word of **explanation**-v.19a—“Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline.........” & Hebrews 12:5-6.

2. Second, there is a word of **exhortation**-v.19b—“... So be earnest and repent.”

3. Third, there is 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. Finally there is 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.”