

life group study guide

August 23, 2015

REVELATION

Laodicea: Useless to God

“Write this to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen – the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s new creation:

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. 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. I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference.

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne.

Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.”

Revelation 3: 14-22

How did Jesus describe Himself to Laodicea? What else do we know about the city and church of Laodicea?

In what sense is Jesus the beginning of creation? Was He the first thing created or the source of creation? And what are the consequences of this question?

What problem did Laodicea have? Explain “hot” and “cold” as used here.

What conclusion did Jesus reach regarding this problem? What applications can we make?

What did the Laodiceans think of themselves? What were they really like? What other church does this compare to?

life group study guide



What did Jesus offer to do for them? What blessings could He give them? Explain. What can we learn regarding nakedness in verse 18? What does this word mean in the Bible?

Why did Jesus speak as He did to them? What must they do to correct their problems?

What should we learn about rebuke and chastening? Do we ever need it? Should we ever practice it?

Explain the illustration of Jesus at the door. Does this apply to alien sinners or also to church members?

What blessing is offered to overcomers? Where else are similar ideas expressed? Explain.