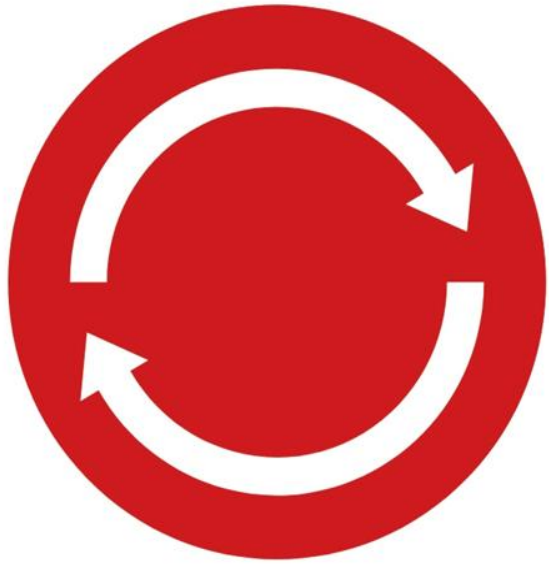


RESET

Rediscovering What the Church Was Born to Be

The Church at Laodicea

(Rev. 3:14-22)



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Laodicea was a rich city that was known for its wealth, trading, and manufacturing. The church receives the harshest rebuke from Jesus.

- The city had been rebuilt after it was destroyed by an earthquake in 60 A.D.**
- All these things served to make it a city of complacency and self-satisfaction.**



Jesus the “AMEN” (v.14)

The “Amen” probably refers to Isaiah 65:16 where Jehovah is called the “God of Truth”. The Hebrew word for truth is “amen”.

- Jesus was the “Head” or “Source” of Creation



They have lost their Vitality (vs. 15-16)

This church was characterized by neither cold indifference or boiling hot zeal. It was a confident and conceited church. It was tepid, lukewarm.

- “Vomit,” to reject with extreme disgust**
- “You make me gag . . .”**
- So disappointing and nauseating to Jesus**



They have forgotten their True Values **(vs17-18a)**

The church thought it was rich and didn't need anything, but Jesus said they were callous, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

- 1. Needed to buy some spiritual “gold” from Christ.**
- 2. Some “white clothes” to cover the shame of their spiritual nakedness.**
- 3. Some spiritual eye salve so they might see clearly**



Finding the Answers You Need

Christ says, “I have a proposal for you. Come to Me for answers regarding your wretched condition. You will find all the answers you need at my spiritual “marketplace”.



Repent and Return to Me (v. 19)

Christ professes His love for the Laodicean Christians in spite of their complacency and arrogance.

- Their love for Him might be lukewarm, but His love for them had not diminished.**
- Sometimes love may feel like punishment.**



Three Closing Statements (vs 19-22)

1. A **Purpose**: *As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline.*
2. A **Plea**: *Be zealous and repent.*
3. A **Promise**: *See! I stand at the door and knock . . .*

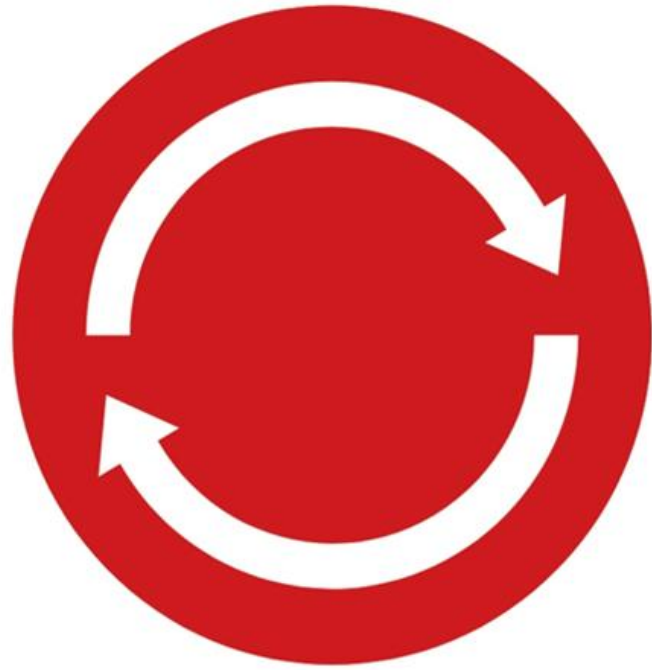


A Closed Door

I am constantly standing at your heart's door knocking, hoping to be invited inside.

- **Christ knocks but we must hear**
- **“Will eat with him” means no more nausea, but a pleasant, wholesome meal.**





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