

CHAPTERS TWO AND THREE – SEVEN LETTERS TO SEVEN CHURCHES

THE LETTER TO THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA – REVELATION 3:14-22 – PART ONE

The passage here in Revelation 3:14-22 is the _____ of the seven letters written to the key churches of Asia Minor. This particular epistle is to the church of Laodicea (signified by their appearance before God in heaven – *the angel*). Its scriptural value is threefold:

- 1) Historical – Written to the actual church in Laodicea around 91-96 AD...
- 2) Doctrinal – Details the events and circumstances taking place during the church age around 1900 AD thru present day... (Including those living during the tribulation period as clearly seen in verse 21)
- 3) Devotional – Contains condemnations, council, and promises that can apply to churches at ____ times throughout history...

The name Laodicea means: The _____ of the people; _____

- Romans 16:17-18; Philipians 3:18-19

The condemnation – Revelation 3:15-17

- They are a _____ (*tepid*) church which makes God heave (*spit, puke, upchuck, vomit*) - *I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.*
 - They are not fanatics or dead beats; they seek to please everyone by being _____ on all the tough issues.
 - It is not what they say, but what they don't say...
- They are a _____ church that thinks they are wonderful when they are actually awful - *Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:*

The council – Revelation 3:18

- God's _____ advice to this poor, naked, and blind group **called a church**: *I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.*
 - Buy of me gold tested in the fire - 1 Peter 1:7
 - Buy white raiment - 2 Co. 5:3; Rev. 16:15
 - Buy eye salve so they can anoint their eyes – Ecc. 9:8; John 9:8

The promises – Revelation 3:19-20

- God loves them, therefore He will _____ and _____ them - *As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.*
 - Rebuke - Lev. 19:17; Proverbs 27:5; 28:23; Mt. 18:15; Galatians 2:14
 - Chasten – Proverbs 19:18; Hebrews 12:5-13

- Although Christ is on the _____ of this “me” church, He will always knock on the door and be willing to come inside - *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.*
 - 2 Peter 3:9 – *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

- To the Laodicean that _____ his pitiful state, God will give him a place of honor - *To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.*

NEXT WEEK: THE LETTER TO THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA – REVELATION 3:14-22 – PART TWO

Historical – 91 AD – 96 AD

Doctrinal – Church History from 1900 AD – Present day

Devotional – Can we be a Philadelphian church living in a Laodicean time?