

Revelation Study
To The Church At Laodicea
Revelation 3:14-22

- I. Jesus: Faithful and Exalted (14)
 - A. The amen – “the truth pronouncement”
 - B. The faithful and true witness – all an expression of the message of God
 - C. The beginning of the creation of God – an extension of the declaration metaphor; the exalted one that even the heavens declare
- II. Exhortation
 - A. Not hot or cold
 - 1. Not a call to being “on fire” or “completely uncommitted”
 - 2. The water situation in Laodicea
 - a. Compared to Hierapolis (hot)
 - b. Compared to Colossae (cold)
 - 3. Their witness was neither healing nor life giving
 - B. Believed they were doing well (in worldly standards) – likely because of their weak witness and compromises with the pagan culture
 - C. Jesus calls them poor, blind, and naked
 - 1. Large banking business
 - 2. Advancements in ophthalmology
 - 3. Large wool trade business
 - D. Buy from me the things you truly need
 - E. Not a call to judgment – one of loving discipline and reproof
 - F. The door – cf. to Song of Solomon 5:2

“The allusion to Cant. 5:2 points to a focus on renewal of a relationship, since there the husband knocks on the door of the

bedchamber to encourage his wife to continue to express her love to him and let him enter, but she at first hesitates to do so. By analogy, Christ, the husband, is doing the same thing with regard to his bride, the church. Similarly, some Jewish commentators understood ‘open to me’ in Cant. 5:2 as a call for Israel’s repentance within the purported context of a covenant relationship with God” G. K. Beale

- III. To Him Who Overcomes
 - A. True dominion and real authority
 - B. The kind that is everlasting, not temporal
- IV. He Who Has Ears To Hear
 - A. Spiritual Insight
 - B. Will we be oriented toward the things of Jesus or of ourselves?