

Study 9: Revelation 3:14-22

LAODICEA

A. The Characteristics of the City: The secular state

Laodicea was famous for:

1. Its wealth – a great Banking and financial centre. Refused aid after the earthquake in AD 17
2. Its medicine – special salve produced here for the cure of weak eyes
3. Its clothing – renowned for its wool trade and garment manufacture.

B. The Condition of the Church: The spiritual state

1. The DESCRIPTION of the Speaker

1:5; 3:14.

- > The Amen...
- > The faithful and true Witness...
- > The ruler of God's creation...

2. The REVELATION

3:15

“*I know...*” used reproachfully.

3. The COMMENDATION

Not one word!

4. The CONDEMNATION

3:15-16

- > Not concerned with what they had or had not done, but with what they were and what they professed to be.
- > They were lukewarm, tepid. The Lord is not angry or grieved – but disgusted!
- > Only one end – rejection. But note, “*I am about to...*” Judgement had not yet fallen. Still hope.

5. The CAUTION

3:18-19

- > Note the grace of the Lord. “*I counsel you...*” not “*I command...*” “*...to buy of Me...*” Emphatic.
- > “*As many as I love...*” personal.
- > REPENT! But how? 3:20. The Saviour comes. He stands. He knocks. He calls. What Grace!

6. The EXPECTATION for the Overcomer
3:21.

- > The Right of Victory
- > The Right of Belonging
- > The Right of Royal honour
- > The Right of intimate fellowship

In spite of great trials and hazards, in Christ we will overcome and sit down with Him in His kingdom at the last.

The DEVASTATION of unbelief, but the DYNAMIC of true faith.
