THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

Bereans Adult Bible Fellowship Placerita Baptist Church

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Place in the Book of Revelation

- . What you have seen (Rev 1).
- What is now (Rev 2–3)—the seven churches of Asia Minor.
 - A. Ephesus (2:1–7)
 - **B.** Smyrna (2:8–11)
 - C. Pergamum (2:12–17)
 - D. Thyatira (2:18–29)
 - **E.** Sardis (3:1–6)
 - F. Philadelphia (3:7–13)



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- Paul received a letter from Laodicea (Col 4:16).
- Did not visit the area until after his release from Roman prison (Philemon 22).

- 14 "To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this:
- 15 'I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot.
- 16 'So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.

17 'Because you say, "I am rich, and have become wealthy, and have need of nothing," and you do not know that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked,

- 18 'I advise you to buy from Me gold refined by fire so that you may become rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself, and *that* the shame of your nakedness will not be revealed; and eye salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see.
- 19 'Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline; therefore be zealous and repent.

- 20 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.
- 21 'He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.
- 22 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'"

- 1. Characterization of Christ (v. 14)
 - He is the Amen—His words and deeds are credible and true.
 - He is the faithful and true Witness.
 - He is the Beginning (or, Beginner, Originator) of God's creation.

2. Commendation from Christ

 He does not commend the church at Laodicea for anything.

3. Complaint by Christ (vv. 15–17)

- He complains that the church at Laodicea exhibits spiritual mediocrity.
- He complains that the church at Laodicea is materially rich, but spiritually poor—and they do not even know it.

- 4. Counsel from Christ (v. 18)
 - He counsels the church at Laodicea to come to Christ for resolving spiritual poverty, nakedness, and blindness.

- 5. Caution by Christ (v. 19)
 - He warns the church at Laodicea to become zealous and to repent.

Question for Discussion

What are the evidences of Christ's love for the church at Philadelphia, His love for the church at Laodicea, and His love for

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What are the differences between and the church at Laodicea?

- 6. Commitment of Christ (vv. 20–21)
 - He will have fellowship with those who hear and welcome Him.
 - He will invite the overcomers to sit with Him on His throne to reign with Him.

7. Practical Implications

- No church can be characterized by salvation, but not by service.
- A church must be thankful before God for salvation.
- A church must exhibit Christ in the life of the church and in the personal lives of its members.

Implications Regarding Jesus Christ

- He is faithful and true.
- He is the Creator.
- He knows a church's works.
- He knows a church's spiritual condition.
- He provides salvation.
- He loves even the unbelieving church.
- He will reprove and chasten.
- Her rewards the faithful.
- He sits with the Father on His throne.