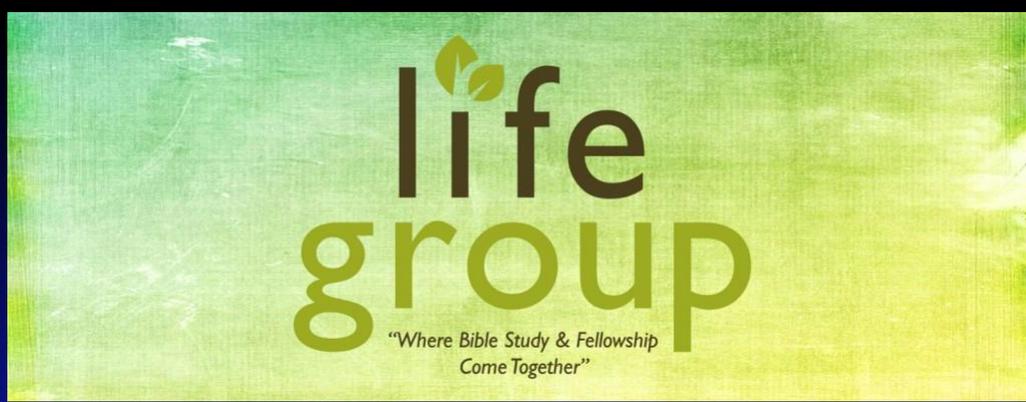


Welcome to the Worship Celebration of



SIMPLY BIBLICAL | FAMILY INTEGRATED



LIFE Group ...

**6:30 pm at the PEED's home this Wed. evening
Bring your Bibles, your Notebooks, an
Expectant heart and a Prayerful-Thankful Attitude
to Experience the Presence, the Power and the
Purpose of Jesus Christ, together**



Jesus Christ Evaluates His Churches – prt 9



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REVIEW:

Ephesus repents, falls BACK in Love with Jesus again ...

Becomes Smyrna (Jerusalem / Reformation Drift - for almost 250 years)

Smyrna **Compromises**, Gets Married to the State in 313 AD through Constantine, the 1st, Roman Emperor ... and Becomes PERGAMOS (Babylonian Drift into Paganism & Idolatry (Balaam) → the rise of RCC)

PERGAMOS → THYATIRA → deeper Paganism & Idolatry (JezeBEL) ... (Babylonian Drift into Paganism & Idolatry → Mariolatry, praying to the Saints)

THYATIRA → SARDIS → Worldly Popular & Powerful (NAME & ALIVE) → The PRIDE of Babylon/BABEL – The Tower of Babel → DEAD

SARDIS → some of them repent → PHILADELPHIA → Protestant Reformation church → Gospel to the Ends of the Earth - Open Doors (Jerusalem / Reformation Drift)

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Revelation 3:14-22

“And to the angel of the church of the **LAODICEANS** write,
‘These things says the **AMEN**, the **FAITHFUL** and **TRUE WITNESS**, the **BEGINNING** of the **CREATION** of God: ¹⁵ “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So then, because you are **LUKEWARM**, and neither cold nor hot, I will **VOMIT** you out of My mouth. ¹⁷ **BECAUSE** you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’ - and **DO NOT KNOW** that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked - ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me **GOLD REFINED IN THE FIRE**, that you may be **RICH**; and **WHITE GARMENTS**, that you may be clothed, that the shame of **YOUR NAKEDNESS** may not be revealed; and **ANOINT YOUR EYES** with eye salve, that you may **SEE**. ¹⁹ As many as I **LOVE**, I **REBUKE** and **CHASTEN**. **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 dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹ To him who **OVERCOMES** I will grant to sit 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.””

Jesus Christ Evaluates His Churches – prt 9



the first Archaeological Item they found was the Door Frame of the church

Jesus Christ Evaluates His Churches – prt 9

1. 'These things says the AMEN, the FAITHFUL and TRUE WITNESS, the BEGINNING of the CREATION of God (Rev. 3:14) →

Christ has to RE-INTRODUCE Himself ...

→ Why does He introduce Himself like this to the church of LAOCIDEA . . . ?

- AMEN (let it be, so be it – Christ is the FINAL SAY on Everything)

- Faithful and True Witness (TRUTH, Faithful Truth, Absolute Truth)

He is Faithful / Trustworthy

- The Beginning of (the Source of, the One who Began)

the Creation of God

This church movement has a problem with Absolute Truth, Biblical Truth, and with Creation. Is Truth Relative to this generation of folks? Do they have a hard time with God's Word being the Baseline of Truth? Do they question the Bible's Accuracy regarding Science, History, and Morality?

BABYLONIAN DRIFT from PHILADELPHIA to LAODICEA ... → PRIDE

Hold Fast to What you Have, Don't Lose your Crown → LAODICEA

(warning from Jesus to Philadelphia in Rev. 3:11)

Jesus Christ Evaluates His Churches – prt 9

2. “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. ¹⁶ So then, because you are **LUKEWARM**, and neither cold nor hot, I will **VOMIT** you out of My mouth.

Hot or Cold Springs ... when they mix in Laodicea ... it is horribly sour and distasteful

Hot → On-Fire → Ready to be used → Spreads like Fire → Useful, Cleansing, Purifying

Cold → Refreshing → Quenching the Thirst → Life-Giving

Lukewarm → First impressions? Mixtures, Compromise, wishy-washy ... ? Yucky?

Christ's Reaction says it all → VOMIT

... not very flattering ... how's that for an evaluation?

Jesus Fully Rejects Everything About this Church. He Does NOT have One Good thing to say about this church, not one.

Jesus Christ Evaluates His Churches – prt 9

3. **BECAUSE** you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' - and **DO NOT KNOW** that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked - ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from Me **GOLD REFINED IN THE FIRE**, that you may be rich; and **WHITE GARMENTS**, that you may be clothed, that the shame of **YOUR NAKEDNESS** may not be revealed; and **ANOINT YOUR EYES** with eye salve, that you may see.

In their own way of thinking ... they were OK ... Worldly Acceptable ... Happy ... They are **Relevant**. **CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?**

HEY → Look at us, we've got it all together. All the fancy techniques, lots of money, our leaders have mansions, we have great "Vision" for the future of our ministries.

They want to **Compromise for the Sake of Relationships ... over and above Doctrine and what actually Pleases Christ. Obedience to Christ according to His Word, the Bible, is what Christ Loves and Likes. They care more about being Accepted by those around them, than that of Christ's Acceptance. They did NOT obey Matthew 10 nor Mark 8:35-38 – dying to self, etc.**

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Gold Refined By the Fire – echoes to Smyrna and Philadelphia ... what they had to go through so that their Faith was Refined by the Fire of Persecution, Trial, and Tribulations of this world because of their Proclamation, Boldness, and Stand for Jesus Christ and God's Word, the Bible. This is what happens when all you have is Jesus Christ and His Word, the Bible. **Your Faith is more precious, to God, than Gold.**

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White Garments – represent God's Rewards given to His Faithful Servants, who are in Love with Jesus. We are Clothed in the Righteousness of Christ (we are **NOT** naked in our sins, like Adam and Eve were in Gen. 3)

Anoint Your Eyes – represents Humility, so that we can see what God wants us to see, based upon His Word by the Holy Spirit (the anointing). We can only come to that place when we are Humble in Christ.

Trivia: Laodicea was known for their natural remedies, especially Eye Salve

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As many as I **LOVE**, I **REBUKE** and **CHASTEN**. **THEREFORE, BE ZEALOUS AND REPENT**.

This is Christ' **LAST CALL** to the churches to **REPENT** - What are the Consequences of this Church **NOT** Obeying Christ and fully Repenting? This shows that He does **LOVE** them. Christ is also **Just & Holy**.

Think About it ... there are **NO** Consequences Listed regarding disobeying Christ's call to Repentance. But there is **Great Reward** for those who do obey His Call to Repentance → **Ruling and Reining with Christ, forever**.

The Consequence of Disobedience is the **Great Tribulation** the next chapters especially chapters **6 – 19 ...** that is the Consequence of disobedience

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4. 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 dine with him, and he with Me. ²¹ To him who OVERCOMES I will grant to sit 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.” → the first Archaeological Item they found was the Door Frame of the church

Jesus is on the **OUTSIDE** of the Church Building, knocking on the Door, trying to get back in. He is a Gentleman, so He is knocking, NOT Barging IN. He is giving them time to REPENT.

How did Jesus End Up on the **OUTSIDE**? This tells us a TON about this Church (church movement). → The FROG in the Kettle ...

They Compromised **Sound Doctrine** to Please the Itching Ears:

→ Read 2 Timothy 3:16-4:4

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2 Timothy 3:16 - 4:4

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (Scripture Is ENOUGH!!!)

4:1 I charge you therefore before God and the LORD Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: ² PREACH THE WORD! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. ³ For the time will come when they will NOT endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the TRUTH, and be turned aside to fables [MYTHS]. [*muthos* → pagan-rooted myths, BTW]

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They are SO FAR AWAY from Christ and His Word, He has to RE-INTRODUCE Himself as GOD, the Final SAY (AMEN) in everything, as The Creator of all Creation, and as the Very Foundation of TRUTH, Absolute Truth. They think that they are ALL THAT ... super awesome Successful Ministry with 1000's and Lots of Cash on Hand ... they have Compromised Sound Doctrine so that they did not Offend Anyone . . . so that they can fill the Pews.

If they REPENT, they would become PHILADELPHIA again...
The Church that ONLY Had JESUS Christ and His Word, the Bible and an Open Door for the Gospel. SIMPLY BIBLICAL

See y'all Next Time we Gather...

@ LIFE Group and/or Here Next Week



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