THE LUKEWARM CHURCH

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
THE LUKEWARM CHURCH
Bible Text: Revelations 3:14--19

Prayer

We thank You Lord Jesus Christ for your protection up to now.we welcome You to come and teach us using Your servant. Let the Holy Spirit open our spiritual minds so that we understand the word and put them into action in the Mighty name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

Introduction

I will go straight into today's study. I want us to follow it carefully as it's what we need especially at this period of time.

Bible Text: Revelations 3:14--19

[14] And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; [15] I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. [16] So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. [17] 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: [18] 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. [19] As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

Study

In the Lord's letter to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans, we see some things He complained about and the remedy He

gave. The Lord is just and faithful and knows all things. We might hide from Him, but He still sees. **Revelation 3:14** "And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God."

The first thing the Lord did was to introduce Himself as the source of all creation, which means that He created everything. He calls Himself a true witness, which means whatever He says is true. Though you might think He does not know what you do in secret, yet He is a witness to what you do, and His witnessing is true. **Revelation 3:15–16** "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."Here He makes it clear that He knows their works. Those who do not have the holy fire yet look as if they do are known by Him. He is able to see everything they do, and everything a man does. He said to the Laodicean church that He knows their works, that they are lukewarm. Today we have churches that are not only lukewarm but are very cold. The altar has become a place where spiritual bugs and pests now reside, yet nothing is done about it.

*_Are you following_*

Despite the fact that the church at Laodicea was lukewarm and not totally cold, the Lord still had issues with her. Not to talk of a cold church. He said, "I will spue thee out of my mouth." This means that the Lord does not want us, His children, to be lukewarm. He detests it so much. He then points out their character, which made them lukewarm. They prided themselves in their material possessions, saying they were rich, had become wealthy, and had need of nothing. **Revelation 3:17 "**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 Lord did not only see their pride and overlook it; He made it clear that they were not what they thought they were. How many churches today think they are okay before God, whereas the Lord is lamenting bitterly because of them? The Lord said they do not know that they are wretched. Wow! How can someone who claims to be rich be truly wretched? The thing is that they do not know. If someone had come to tell them that they were wretched, they would have waved it off and not seen sense in what the person said. For it is the Lord Himself telling them that they are wretched. What a pity that there are churches today too that are so wretched, yet claim wealth. You see their magnificent buildings and the class of people there, and humanly speaking, you would conclude that they are worthy, whereas before the Lord these churches are wretched. They build auditoriums but do not build men for Christ. The Lord says they are miserable. Kai, this is too much for such a church that thinks she is good to go. Miserable! That is pitiable. In the Yoruba language, there is an adage which says "eni ti awon eyan wo lawo sukun toun wo are re ni awo rerin" this describes someone who is seen as pitiable but keeps seeing himself as someone glad.

That was the case of the Laodicean church. This church did not see anything wrong with itself, but the Lord was saying their state was pitiable. It is most likely that the Lord had seen where their lifestyle would end them, that it would not be okay, which is why He called them miserable. How many miserable people do we have today in the world? How many churches are miserable today? Only God knows, for their numbers are numerous. The Lord then says they are poor—though rich before men, but poor before God—blind. Why would a church as wealthy as that be blind, and their wealth could not open their eyes? They are

naked; as rich as they are, they had no clothes. This tells us that the Lord saw through their spiritual state, not the physical.

Just the way He said to Samuel: **1 Samuel 16:7 "**But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."This church continued to look at its appearance and forgot its spiritual state, and the Lord was not pleased with her. If we look carefully, we would see the signs of a church that is lukewarm, wretched, and miserable in what the Lord said.

If you attend a church and you see these signs, you should know that you are in the wrong place:

1. A church where there is competition in material possessions.

2. A church where the major messages preached are centered on material wealth.

3. A church where the spiritual lives of people do not really matter.

4. A fun-fare church.

5. A church with a high caliber of people with low or no true understanding of the Scriptures.

6. A proud church.

7. A church that is given to immorality.

8. A church where dressing does not matter, making it a seductive church, thereby breeding cold Christians.

Now, the Lord's counsel is seen here:

Revelation 3:18 "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."One can then ask, how would those who are poor get money to buy gold? It is just as they may buy Christ wine and milk, that is, without money and without price. **Isaiah 55:1** "Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." They must part with something to obtain true hidden riches in Christ.

The Lord points them to Himself, who is the One who can ease them of their emptiness, blindness, and nakedness. They must part with sin and their self-sufficiency. He says all He says as a rebuke and tells them that those He loves are those He rebukes. **Revelation 3:19 "**As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent."If you also are in the category of the Laodicean church, then the Lord is counseling you now, as He has just told you your errors. Repent. Stop thinking you are rich when you are living in sin. Be zealous and amend your ways. Stop living in spiritual nakedness so that your shame will not be seen. This is the time to make things right with God. Any church that does not help your spiritual growth, leave it. Stop listening to motivational messages that set your mind on things on earth and not on things above. **Colossians 3:2:** "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth."

How to be free from lukewarmness as a church:

1. Preach repentance always.

2. Teach the truth about holiness and righteousness.

3. Organize constant retreats and Holy communion services.

4. Have a deep and strong Bible study unit.

5. Those ministering should constantly have prayer and word meetings.

6. Defend against sinful activities in the church.

7. Do not give room for any form of compromise in order to make your messages acceptable to anyone.

8. Stand on the truth the Lord sends you.

9. Focus on discipleship.

This is the end of today's teaching, good night brethren

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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