

REVELATION 3; December 29; What Is a Lukewarm Christian?

ANALYSIS::

1. What three churches were chapter three addressed to in the Revelation? _____
2. Which church received a commendation _____, and which churches received sharp rebukes? _____
3. Does verse 5 indicate that a child of God can have his name blotted out of the book of life? _____
4. What are the four characteristics listed of the Lord Jesus Christ who wrote to the church at Philadelphia? _____
5. Does verse 10 prove that all believers will be “raptured” out of this world before the “great tribulation”? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

“Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him, and he with me.” Revelation 3:20 is a verse that is often misapplied to lost sinners who are told they need to let Jesus come into their heart so they can be “saved.” However, this verse was clearly written to God’s people who were part of the church of Laodicea. The Lord Jesus Christ is seeking a closer relationship of communion with these lukewarm brethren. After sharply rebuking this church for its lukewarmness and pride, the Lord Jesus Christ demonstrates his patient and long-suffering spirit toward his people. While he calls upon them to repent of their sins, he is extremely forbearing and patient with them. What a merciful Savior!

The Lord Jesus Christ does not like lukewarm Christians. He would rather have you cold than lukewarm. Have you lost your zeal and fervor for the Lord of glory? Have you lost your enthusiasm and excitement for the things of God? Are you going through the motions without having your heart in what you are doing? If this is true for you, dear Christian, the Lord Jesus Christ says the same thing to you today that he said to the church of the Laodiceans in the first century: “be zealous therefore, and repent.” He is knocking at your heart’s door today. How will you respond?

HELP:

- 1 The churches of Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea (vv 1,7,14).
- 2 Philadelphia received a commendation; Sardis and Laodicea received rebukes.
3. No, just the opposite; this verse only says their names would not be blotted out of the book of life (v 5).
4. He that is holy; he that is true; he that hath the key of David; and he that openeth and no man shutteth, and shutteth and no man openeth (v 7).
5. No, this verse neither mentions the rapture nor the great tribulation. This verse was specifically written to the church at Philadelphia and we cannot be sure exactly what this was referring to.