



Big Idea: Passion for Christ comes from the presence of Christ.

v. 14

- In the title *"the Amen,"* Christ presents Himself as the infallible and authoritative judge.
- As the *"faithful and true Witness"* Jesus always tells us the **TRUTH** even when we don't want to hear it.
- As *"the beginning of God's creation,"* Jesus speaks to us with all power, authority, and reliability to bring about what He threatens and promises.

v. 15-16

- Both cold and hot are **GOOD** here, because they are mentioned in reference to drinking water.
- Jesus is telling the church that He finds lukewarm followers to be like lukewarm water **DISGUSTING**

v. 17

- There was an immense chasm between the Laodiceans **SELF PERCEPTION** and their true spiritual condition.
- We should avoid the temptation to examine our spiritual walk from our own perspective, and strive to see ourselves through Christ's eyes.

- Lukewarm Christians are self-deceived followers who are **SATISFIED** with an unsatisfactory spiritual condition.
- The sinful nature can very easily be deceived into thinking that we are doing great and have all we need.

v. 18-19

- Laodicea had acquired its material wealth from three primary sources—banking, textiles, and the production of a popular eye salve.
- The will of Christ for the church is that the poverty brought about by our sin would be replaced by **SPIRITUAL** wealth.
- The only place we can get these spiritual riches is from Jesus himself. So He says, *“I counsel you to buy from me.”*
- Yet, if we are thoroughly bankrupt, how are we supposed to buy gold, or garments, or salve from Christ.

v. 20

- There is nothing we can give Christ to get the eternal riches He offers except one thing: an **INVITATION**
- This call to open the door is not addressed to unbelievers, but to lukewarm Christians who feel they do not need more of Christ.
- To live for Him with greater passion, we first need to let Him in and bask in His **PRESENCE**
 - *Are you frequently maintaining close fellowship with Christ, or is He knocking on doors that you never get around to opening?*
 - *Is Jesus a close companion with whom you share rich spiritual meals? Or does He seem to you more like some distant religious official?*
 - *Have you experienced what happens when we actually open the door and let Christ in to our innermost place?*

-- You will only find passion for Christ when you let Him in and give Him all that you are and hope to be.

v. 21

-- Christ offers us a share in His universal and eternal rule if we will overcome the perils of self-satisfied religion and lukewarm faith.

-- **PASSION** for Christ comes from the **PRESENCE** of Christ.