

College Class
The Seven Churches of Asia
LAODICEA Part 2

Without
heaps of dust.
With
living Spirit

- Prayer - The voice of God in word & spirit
- HYMN - 355 (346)
- Short Item
- Reading. Rev 3. 19-22.

Talk

Q what typified Lao?
lukewarm laodiceans

- If last week heard a rebuke
This week hear a gracious call.
(Surely this is ^{love &} mercy - That those of whom LORD is disgusted
He says: -
"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten."
may have seemed severe

- The careless parent who fails to discipline his child
fails to care or love his child
• Allow a child to go its own way
without curbing the nature
is a cruelty without measure.

Psalm
23. 3

stand back and
• Let go and stand back and see
the careless parent makes a monster of a manchild!

- But this is not the heart of God.
Better the frowns of a friend
than the flattering smiles of an enemy.



(Beware of the friends who never disagree
who encourage you in sin, so they may abuse.
They are sycophant's not siblings.
flatterers not friends or brothers.)

- Then we see the call "Be zealous therefore (not not lukewarm)
and Repent."

- He has shown them what they truly are
Now he calls them to what they should be.
- Repent of what Christ has exposed us to be
by His Law.

(It is hard to hear, but it is the schoolmaster,
bringing us to repentance)
How could we repent, if we ~~understood~~
didn't understand our sin?)

- This is the First half of the ~~struggle~~ call.

Famous
V
verse

Now we see second - Christ comes to the door.
This is the call to open door of heart.

• See He not only knocks but speaks 'Hear my voice'

- He's been speaking all these weeks!
stating ~~asking~~ if you have ears to hear then to hear.

- Do you hear Him calling?
- Do you hear Him knocking?

- How does He call? "I don't hear him sir!"
Do we need to ask - after so many weeks!?

BY WORD
x
SPIRIT

• By Grace he comes and makes the first move
(this is always the way - if Christ
~~doesn't~~ doesn't come man will not)

Through the Word by the Spirit
he pays the heart a visit.
He comes along that road of mercy.

or opened
when we see
him coming
like the
sun

• He finds door shut against
him by nature (otherwise one knock would do.
But the picture is of persistence
against resistance)

Ignorance / Unbelief / Sinful prejudice

ill
stone
telephone
hat.

• So he waits/persists as if to wake a deep sleeper
(Nick trying to wake me with calls, stone
telephone hat.)

- The means to awaken?
He calls by the Gospel
He knocks by the impulses of the H. Spirit
upon the conscience.

"God whispers in your pleasures
speaks in your conscience
but shouts in pain."

It is this megaphone to rouse a sleeping world!
C.S. Lewis.

- Note once again
Christ makes the first move here
(This is a conversion picture not regeneration)

The two are not the same
If He doesn't visit - No man would ever
open the door and wonder where
God was.

No. We will not have God because we do not
want God.

(This is an unrequited love at first
sight!
It is certainly not love at first sight!
we will not even open the door!)

- See the Picture

What is the person doing inside?

- Indulging in sins
ever more unsatisfying
- Lonely - only they & satan are within
(and he makes a bad housemate)



even with many companions - lonely in a crowd.

- The House is Dirty, Dark & Cold
PROV 22-13
Afraid to venture out

The cupboards are bare (apart from a few
old sweets the Devil
brings home now & then)

Our lives
are empty

- It is more of a prison
than a home!

capture to sin
see no way out

- In Bible the body is pictured as an earthly dwelling without ~~life~~ ^{a person} in it - a house is dark/lifeless without Christ - the soul is dead no life in the spirit.



III House on Lewin Road Transformed.

- Are you too ashamed of the state of the inside of your house of the heart and the crumbling condition of the building to receive Christ?

Don't worry - He comes to do what you cannot. You needn't ^{try} clean before you open the door. In fact you can't - Christ must do it.

- It's true - you have nothing to set before your guest ^{A full life nourishment spiritually}

Don't worry Christ will bring the feast & cast Satan out, He'll open the curtains, pull out the boards so light can flood in.



(No longer will your mind be darkened by ignorance & misunderstanding) ^{of ignorance blinding you to the truth. False opinions held.}

- Then you'll enjoy such sweet & pleasant communion with each other. Much companionship & joy as you dwell together.

- See the picture in Song of Solomon. S of S 2.8-13 - Gospel call. S of S 5.2-7 - lost communion ^{A believer's warning.}

Even to sit on His throne (close - as close as Christ & the Father) As Christ conquered so shall we.

IF YOU HEAR - OPEN NOW - OR HE MAY BE GONE