

THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS:

DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT HE SEES IN YOU AND PROMISES TO YOU?

Houses of Light Church • January 22-23, 2022 • Pastor Netz Gómez

Rev. 3:15-17

"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

- I. **THE CORRECTION OF JESUS** The letter to the Laodicean church is the culmination of the expression of the heart of Jesus in both His exhortation and His rewards.
- A. ***"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold"*** I consider that what Jesus is pointing out is the indifference towards Himself which in itself is an offense. **How** is it that a person can ignore someone like Jesus? The church that is indifferent toward Christ, the world will be indifferent toward her. If today I told you that you are lukewarm, most likely you would not believe me because it is not something that we like or conceive of ourselves in that way, however it is what Jesus sees and that we do not see. The question then is do you believe what Jesus sees in you?
- B. ***"I am about to spit you out of my mouth"*** When he tells us this, He is implying that He has us inside of Him in His very heart but He cannot tolerate what smells bad in us. I imagine Jesus looking at us with eyes of love but at the same time he cannot bear to throw up because he will not ignore the condition in which we find ourselves.
- C. ***"You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."*** Here Jesus is telling us: You have a wrong concept about yourself, you act as if you don't need anything. When a person really admits that he/she is in need, he/she will look for how to fill that great lack that he/she has:
1. ***"you are wretched, pitiful"*** Which indicates a sorry condition to be hardened and spiritually dull. They were in a deplorable state before Him but they thought just the opposite. This is the most disturbing thing Jesus can say to a believer.
 2. ***"poor"*** Jesus is talking about being spiritually deficient, which is not the same as being poor in spirit (**Mat.5:3**), but rather spiritually deficient, without any spiritual wealth before God..
 3. ***"blind"*** It includes not being able to see the truth about who God is and who one is. It is difficult for us to admit our spiritual blindness, that happened to the Pharisees.
Jn. 9:40 "Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" (NIV)
 4. ***"naked"***: Being spiritually naked speaks of those believers who will lack being rewarded with heavenly garments. Jesus warns of the shame of not being clothed because it will reveal a lack of love for Him in coming age. **They were so worried about what they were going to wear to their parties that they didn't care how they looked before God.** This speaks of Christians who do not have works of righteousness and who will not be able to be rewarded with the heavenly garments in the age to come.

Rev. 16:15 *"Look, I come like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked and be shamefully exposed."*

II. ADVICES FROM JESUS

"I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see." Here, Jesus speaks of Himself as someone who has a store where He sells everything we need. Despite being so miserable and poor, they did have the price to buy what Jesus tells them to buy; the question is **what price am I willing to pay to get it?**

- A. **"gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich"** Jesus wants us to acquire from Him the gold that comes from listening to Him with our full attention and staying in faith during trials. In Proverbs Jesus spoke that He is the wisdom of God (**1 Cor. 1:24**) and that the fruit of Him is better than refined gold.

Pr. 8:19-33 *"My fruit is better than fine gold... ²⁰ I walk in the way of righteousness, along the paths of justice, ²¹ bestowing a rich inheritance on those who love me and making their treasuries full... ³² Now then, my children, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. ³³ Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it."*

You don't need money to be rich towards God, gold comes through testing experiences that you are going through and that refine you because your faith in Him becomes more genuine and stronger.

1 Pe. 1:6-7 *"In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. ⁷ These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."*

- B. **"white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness"** Jesus exhorted us to "buy" garments through righteous living that will result in being rewarded with heavenly garments. Jesus is the one who sells the really fine clothes which is to dress in works of justice; without these white clothes we are naked before God which is shameful.

Rev. 19:7b-8 *"...his bride has made herself ready. ⁸ Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)"*

1. **"and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see"** Jesus refers to spiritual blindness; they were blind because their senses were dulled by the things of this world. That city boasted about the eye ointment they produced but Jesus tells them; I can give you the true ointment that heals spiritual blindness. **It is Jesus who puts the ointment on our eyes so that we can see Him and our true condition.** God's people must act in the grace of God to heal their spiritually sick eyes. Only the Spirit can give us the revelation of Jesus as we feed on the revealed Word (**Eph. 1:17**).
- C. **"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline;"** Jesus is openly telling them that He loves them and that is why He is rebuking them. In our current culture, repressions are interpreted as rejection, but Jesus teaches us that a rebuke born from a heart of love, even if it hurts, is like a medicine that does good to the soul. (**Pr. 20:30**).
- D. **"So be earnest [passionate and repent]"** That is what Jesus wants, a zeal in the human heart, which is the antidote to indifference and passivity. Many have lost for their passion for God and need to repent.

III. PROMISES TO THOSE WHO OVERCOME

Rev. 3:20-21 ***"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. ²¹ To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne."*** Jesus invites us to draw close to him and promises great rewards for those who respond..

- A. ***"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock"*** Jesus can open all doors (Rev. 3:7-8) but He will not open the door of our heart by force; He will never violate our free will. When we neglect to invest the time and energy to open our hearts to Him, Jesus does not love us less, but we minimize our ability to enjoy relating to Him, to receive a greater understanding of Him, and therefore to receive eternal reward..
- B. ***"If anyone hears my voice and opens the door"*** ¿How is it that this church could recover from its lost state? Someone was required to listen to Jesus. **The great solution to this condition is to dine with Christ, in a true life of fellowship with Him.** We have to take time to listen to Him, our prosperity can keep us so busy that we are not listening to Jesus knocking at the door.
- C. ***"I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."*** Jesus tells us: you have not gone too far, there is still hope and opportunity for any believer to recover the sensitivity and tenderness that they have lost. **Eating together speaks of deep fellowship as the Spirit softens our hearts.** Jesus promises to manifest Himself in a greater way to those who love and obey Him.

Jn. 14:21 y 23 *"Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them..."* ²³ Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."

- 1. The eternal application of this refers to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb (Rev. 3:20; 19:9; Lk. 22:16, 29, 30; Matt. 26:29; Mk. 14:25).
 - 2. He longs for His people to feast with Him as He makes them lovesick at His banquet table. (Songs. 2:4-5).
- D. ***"To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne"*** He says: 'If you let Me sit here with you I will also let you sit with Me on My throne.' **The point is if we believe it and bet our whole lives on the reward that He promises us if we overcome indifference and spiritual superficiality.** All believers are offered the opportunity to rule with Jesus in the Millennium (Rev. 5:10; 11:15; 20:4)

Rev. 20:6b *"...but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."*

Jesus promised the apostles that they would eat and drink with him and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. Eating and ruling with Jesus meet regularly and express intimacy with Him.

Lk. 22:29-30 *"And I confer on you a kingdom, just as my Father conferred one on me, ³⁰ so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom and sit on thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel"*

IV. THE PRESENTATION OF JESUS

- A. ***"the Amen"*** It means "Truly, truly, I say to you." **Jesus is "the Amen"** since all His promises are true. As "The Amen", Jesus lives according to his Father. **This title shows Jesus' ability to make everything he says happen;** it is as if he were saying: I am the 'truly, truly I tell

you'. **Jesus is infallible and trustworthy especially since he will give the rewards to the overcomers.**

2 Cor. 1:20 "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen..."

- B. **"the faithful and true witness":** That is to say that when giving His evaluation of our lives, He never exaggerates, flatters or criticizes unfairly. What He speaks is trustworthy and true (3:7). Jesus told them the truth including the positive and negative aspects. He revealed great promises (3:18-21) along with their deplorable spiritual condition (3:15-17). **Jesus assures us that his testimony about the condition of this church and our lives is trustworthy even though it sometimes seems so puzzling or even offensive.**
- C. **"the ruler of God's creation":** It means that it is the first reason for creation. (Jn. 1:3; Col. 1:16-18; Rev. 1:11) which means that He is the One who has all the authority to tell them what He was speaking to them and also to create what does not exist.

V. REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. How much do you recognize your spiritual lukewarmness? Explain what it is
2. What is the remedy that Jesus offers you and how can you live it?
3. How does Jesus' reward motivate you to overcome lukewarmness?

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THIS WEEK

HOUSES OF LIGHT SCHOOLS RESUME MONDAY, JANUARY 24 7:00 PM • REGISTER TODAY AT THE LOBBY OR ONLINE. [www. housesoflight.org](http://www.housesoflight.org)

• GROWTH SCHOOLS FOR ALL

- ✓ **AFFIRMING YOUR STEPS (online):** 13 Basic Teaching Classes for New Members.
- ✓ **DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL (Online):** Three levels of fundamental education.

• ADVANCED SCHOOLS

- ✓ **INTRODUCTION TO THE HOUSE OF PRAYER:** 10 In-person and online classes with counselors and hands-on experience in the Prayer Room.
- ✓ **TRANSITIONAL LEADERSHIP:** 10 face-to-face classes on how to grow as a leader in a culture of prayer with reflection groups.
- ✓ **PARENTING SCHOOL:** 13 Wednesday Online Classes for Parents of Young Children or Teens.
- ✓ **RESTORATION HOUSE:** 1-year online program to overcome character problems and addictions; Thursday and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- **YOUTH SERVICE: This Wednesday, January 26 at 7:00 p.m.** All Junior High and High School youth are welcome.