



Revelation 3:14-22

14 And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: **15** "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.

Revelation 3:14-22

16 So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. **17** Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

Revelation 3:14-22


18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

Revelation 3:14-22


19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. **20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 3:14-22

21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. **22** "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."




I. City	V. Complaint
II. Church	VI. Counsel
III. Christ Jesus	VII. Crown
IV. Commendation	




I. City

- Situated on a plateau in a fertile valley.
- Laodicea was part of a tri-city area, together with cities of Colossi and Hierapolis.
- Most prosperous commercial city of the 7.
- Important Financial Banking Centre [rich].
- Famous thriving soft black Wool Industry [clothe].
- Medical Centre well known for its eye medication.



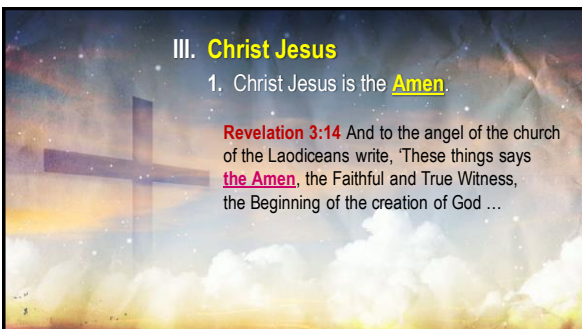
I. City

- Laodicea did not have its own water supply.
- Received water through an aqueduct from the waters of Hierapolis (famous hot springs) and Colossae (cold springs) and arrived lukewarm.
- Destroyed by a major earthquake. Rejected offer by Emperor to rebuild as they were wealthy to do so on their own.



II. Church

- Occult practices: Center of worship of Asklepios, god of medicine.
- Gospel came to Laodicea when Paul was in Ephesus (Acts 19:10).
- Stronghold: Spirit of Pride - Self Dependent.
- Ignorant - no awareness and far from God.



III. Christ Jesus

1. Christ Jesus is the Amen.

Revelation 3:14 And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God ...



III. Christ Jesus

1. Christ Jesus is the Amen.

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NKJV) For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NIV) For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

III. Christ Jesus

2. Christ Jesus is the faithful and true witness.

Revelation 3:14 And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God ...

III. Christ Jesus

3. Christ Jesus is the beginning of the creation of God.

Revelation 3:14 And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God ...

III. Christ Jesus

3. Christ Jesus is the beginning of the creation of God.

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

III. Christ Jesus

3. Christ Jesus is the beginning of the creation of God.

Colossians 1:16-17

16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

IV. Commendation

NONE

V. Complaint

1. Church in Laodicea was lukewarm.

Revelation 3:15-16

15 "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. **16** So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

V. Complaint

2. Church in Laodicea had a **wrong perception** of itself as being **rich**, became **wealthy** and **needed nothing**.

Revelation 3:17a Because you say, 'I am **rich**, have become **wealthy**, and have **need of nothing**' ...

V. Complaint

3. Church in Laodicea, from **God's verdict**, were:

A. Wretched	B. Miserable	C. Poor
D. Blind	E. Naked	

Revelation 3:17b ... and do not know that you are **wretched**, **miserable**, **poor**, **blind**, and **naked**—

V. Complaint

3. Church in Laodicea, from **God's verdict**, were:

A. Wretched	B. Miserable	C. Poor
D. Blind	E. Naked	

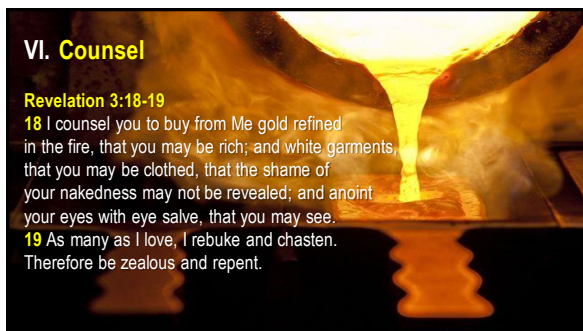
Luke 12:21 So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is **not rich toward God**.

VI. Counsel

Revelation 3:18-19

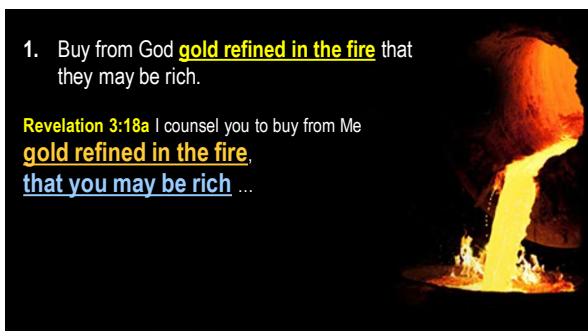
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19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.



1. Buy from God **gold refined in the fire** that they may be rich.

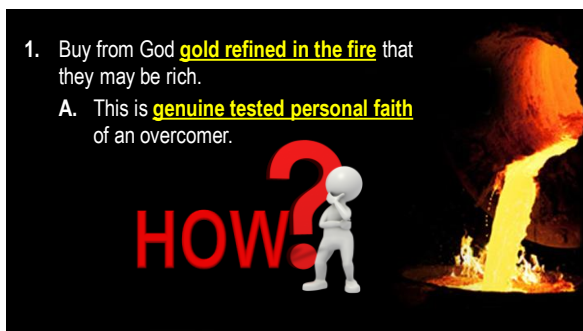
Revelation 3:18a I counsel you to buy from Me **gold refined in the fire**, **that you may be rich** ...



1. Buy from God **gold refined in the fire** that they may be rich.

A. This is **genuine tested personal faith** of an overcomer.

HOW?



A. This is genuine tested personal faith of an overcomer.

1 Peter 1:6-7

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ ...



A. This is genuine tested personal faith of an overcomer.

i. Our belief system is a mixture.

A major part of it is in:

- The Will of Father-God.
- The Word of the Lord Jesus.
- The Ways of the Holy Spirit.
- The Wisdom of God.



A. This is genuine tested personal faith of an overcomer.

ii. But, the other portion of our belief system comprise impurities that are not aligned with the Will, Word, Ways and Wisdom of God.



Bi. Impurities in gold are purified by fire.

Bii. Similarly, trials in our lives, like fire, purifies our faith.

Biii. Trials are for a season. This season, in the light of eternity, is a little while.

1 Peter 1:6 ... though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials.



Biv. Trials are grievous / painful to the person undergoing it.

Bv. Trials are only as needed, and seem to attract those whose faith need to be perfected in those areas.

1 Peter 1:6 ... though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials.



John 16:33

(1) In this FALLEN world, there are Trials affecting ALL.

(2) For believers, our faith will be Tested.

Consequences of sins of people in our lives

The wickedness of man

Selfishness of man

Finances

Peace

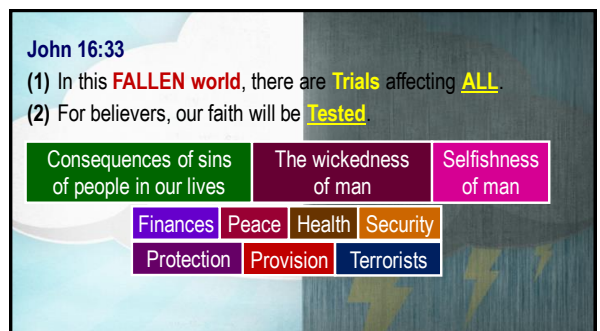
Health

Security

Protection

Provision

Terrorists




Trouble - Trials from Fallen Man and World will test us:-

When our lives are threatened	When we are retrenched	When there is a family crisis	When a loved one is taken very ill
When your "god-father" in your workplace / business venture is no longer around			
When someone you depended on very strongly is no longer around			
When you meet a car accident	When your teenage child turns rebellious		

1. Buy from God **gold refined in the fire** that they may be rich.


Proverbs 23:23 Buy the **truth** ... also **wisdom and instruction and understanding**.



Ci. We do not have **absolute** knowledge.


Cii. There will be situations where we will **not** completely know and understand on this side of heaven.

1 Corinthians 13:12 For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I **know in part**, but then I shall know just as I also am known.




Ciii. But, God has given us **sufficient** knowledge in His **Word** and **Revelation** from the Holy Spirit when we seek Him.

Civ. Sufficient knowledge from God's Word and Revelation by the Holy Spirit will help to **purify** our faith.




Cv. It will **help** answer such questions:

- Why did this **accident** happen?
- Did **God** send the typhoon-tsunami to judge us?
- Did God give me **cancer** to punish me?
- Did God send this **illness** to teach me godliness?



Cv. It will **help** answer such questions:

- Why did God **not** answer my prayer?
- Why is it so **unfair** to me?
- Why was I retrenched?
- Why was I rejected?
- **Why?** Why? Why?



Cvi. Sufficient knowledge from God's Word require us to **always base a principle or truth** on the **entire weight** of Scriptures instead of some portion that seems to say otherwise.

Psalm 119:160

the entirety / sum of the scriptures is truth.

Di. **But**, God has given **earth** to Man.

Dii. He has given-allowed-permitted Man a **free will**.

Diii. God Himself **cannot** violate His own Laws.

- Ei. He has placed **laws** and **principles of life** on earth.
- Eii. Everything on earth occurs according to **His Laws** and **Principles of Life** given to Man and earth.
- Eiii. We disobey and violate to our **loss** and **destruction**.
We obey and flow to our **gain** and **prosperity**.

Eiv. Thereafter, whatever we sow, we will **reap**.

✓ God is **not** responsible for the decisions we make.

Ev. God does **not** randomly, haphazardly intervene **unless someone prays** [a law-principle He laid].

F. Our faith is purified when we know the **source** of the pain and trials in our lives.

All suffering by a believer is a trial of his **faith**.

- i. Suffering in a **fallen world** - **No** choice
- ii. Suffering due to our own "**faults**" - **Wrong** choice
- iii. Suffering for **righteousness sake** - **Right** choice

God is NOT glorified in All our sufferings!
Only for Christ and Righteousness sake!

G. God is **always** good. When we turn to Him, He will see us through our trials to turn it for **good**.

Romans 8:28 And we know that **all things work together for good** to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.

Genesis 50:20 But as for you, **you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good**, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

H. Do not **confuse** God's goodness in seeing us through a trial to mean that He is the **source** of our trials.

James 1:17 Luke 11:13

2. Buy from God **white garments** that they may be covered.

Revelation 3:18b ... and **white garments, that you may be clothed**, that the **shame of your nakedness may not be revealed**...

2. Buy from God **white garments** that they may be covered.

Revelation 19:7-8 (NIV)

7 ... the wedding of the Lamb has come, and **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 the saints)

2. Buy from God **white garments** that they may be covered.

Revelation 16:15 Blessed is he who **watches** and **keeps his garments lest he walk naked and they see his shame**.

1 John 2:28 **Abide in Him**, that when He appears, we may have confidence and **not be ashamed** before Him at His coming.

Buy **white garments** means

A. We pay the price **to walk**:

- i. In **righteousness**
In **holiness**
- ii. Separation **from**
Separation **to**

Buy **white garments** means

B. We pay the price **to walk in holiness**:

- i. What is permissible for **others** may not be permissible for you.
- ii. What **was** permissible may not be permissible now as you grow spiritually.

Buy white garments means

C. We pay the price to be blameless:

- i. To have a conscience void of offense before God and man (Acts 24:16).
- ii. To have integrity - wholeness (1 Thessalonians 5:23).

3. Buy from God eye salve that they may see.

Revelation 3:18c ... and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.

3. Buy from God eye salve that they may see.

Luke 11:34-35

34 The lamp of the body is the eye. Therefore when your eye is good, your whole body also is full of light. But when your eye is bad, your body also is full of darkness. **35** Therefore take heed that the light which is in you is not darkness.

3. Buy from God eye salve that they may see.

1 John 2:11 But he who hates his brother is in darkness and walks in darkness, and does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

This is Spiritual Seeing.

This is Wisdom and Revelation.

This means we have:-

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| • Knowledge | - Oversight |
| • Understanding | - Insight |
| • Wisdom | - Foresight |

Revelation comes only from the **Holy Spirit** enlightening the **Word of God** to us.

VII. Crown

1. Sweet fellowship with the Lord.

Revelation 3:20b ... I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.



VII. Crown

2. To sit with Jesus on His throne.

Revelation 3:21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.



Bottom-Line

Be Hot for God

Revelation 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.



Bottom-Line

Be Hot for God

Revelation 3:20a Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door ...

