I am convinced that the those who claim to be Christians or are nominal Christians across the world are being drawn into the idea that if you are not open minded, and willing to allow people to live their lives the way they want within the churches let alone outside the churches then you cannot be a true Christian. I am equally convinced that Christian organizations whether churches or Christian schools are afraid to stand and separate themselves from the power of the government. The political influence on the church small (c) as well as so called Christian Schools is immense and is leading millions to their death.

Of the 7 churches in the first 3 chapters of Revelation all but 2 fell prey to the political pressure of Rome and at the time politically motivated Judaism.

It stems from one major intended outcome, the desire for power; and one major source; Satan. The entire world is under non-benevolent governments and non-benevolent leaders, neither of which believe they are accountable to God, and are more interested in power than in caring for the people.

The Church must stand for righteousness and share the Good News. If the Church and all those ancillary organizations that purport to be Christian, buckle to the power of the God hating governments, they will suffer the same fate as Jesus described to

the five of the seven churches in Revelation chapters 1-3. They that have an ear let them hear.

Message to the Church in Sardis

1And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

Jesus identifies Himself to the leadership of Sardis as

"he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars:"

Nowhere in the Bible does it specifically show who the Seven Spirits are if they are individual created beings.

Seven as we have seen God repeatedly uses to describe Himself as "perfect" and or "complete. So, it may mean that Jesus is simply saying that He possess the perfect and complete presence of the Holy Spirit. There are two other theories on the 7 Spirits, the first is as just said, the 7 Spirits is the Holy Spirit.

From "Got Questions":

"The second view is that the seven spirits of God refer to seven angelic beings, possibly the seraphim or the cherubim. This would fit with the numerous others angelic beings that are described in the book of Revelation (Revelation 4:6-9; 5:6-14; 19:4-5)."

This is a quote from "Got Questions" as to a third possibility that gives 7 specific attributes to God:

"A third possibility is based on <u>Isaiah 11:2</u>, which says, "The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD." This could possibly explain the seven spirits of God: (1) Spirit of the LORD, (2) Spirit of wisdom, (3) Spirit of understanding, (4) Spirit of counsel, (5) Spirit of power, (6) Spirit of knowledge, (7) Spirit of the fear of the Lord. The Bible doesn't tell us specifically who/what the seven spirits are, but the first interpretation, that they are the Holy Spirit, seems the most likely."

As to the 7 stars; we learned in Revelation 1:20 what they stand for.

Revelation 1:20 <u>20</u>The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.

The 7 stars are the angels of the seven churches. They may be guardian angels but more likely they are the leadership of each home church in a specific city like Sardis.

After Jesus identifies His attributes to the leadership of Sardis, He has this to say:

Vs 1..... I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

The allegation is that in their minds and even in the minds of the those seeing this church from the outside is that this church is alive: "livest".

According to Strong's Concordance the Greek word used is:

Transliteration: zaó

Phonetic Spelling: (dzah'-o)

Definition: to live

Usage: I live, am alive.

The implication is that it appeared to be a living thriving church.

Q. So what would give the appearance of a living thriving church?

Perhaps lots of people attending, doing all kinds of activities, outreach, programs etc.

However, Jesus makes a negative declarative statement:

"and art dead"

Q. What does God say decides whether someone is alive or dead in the Spirit?

Ephesians 2: 2Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: 3Among whom also we all had our

conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 4:18 They are darkened in their understanding and alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardness of their hearts.

Perhaps faithfully attending church every Sunday, working in various outreach ministries that the church had embarked on; all to what end. A dead church that looked alive but alive in the flesh not in the Spirit.

Walking in the world as the world walks, not being Born Again, rejecting the free gift of Christ, putting the human mind in charge instead of the Holy Spirit, all contribute to being dead in the Spirit.

It has been my observation that dead churches come from spiritually asleep Christians. They will put up with anything from leadership as long as they personally don't have to do anything. People with good hearts but with no passion about what and who saved them and from what they were saved from. Church leadership is often the catalyst for believers to stop having joy in their salvation. Joy that should emanate from all believers. If you are unhappy, the whole world will see it. If you are happy the whole world will see that as well. Don't be deceived, each person's persona signals to everyone around you who and what

you believe. Joy should be in all our hearts about the One who died for us.

1And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead.

Vs 1 summary, Jesus the master of our lives is saying to Sardis that their image is alive but in fact they are dead. Where is the Joy?

2Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

Be watchful, wake up, get woke? Perhaps not the last but the sense from Strong's Concordance

1127 *grēgoreúō* – literally, "stay awake"; (figuratively) be *vigilant* (*responsible*, watchful). (emphasis mine)

It is not a suggestion but a command due to the serious nature of the outcome. It is the same Greek word used when God cautions His Children in 1 Peter about Satan.

1 Peter 5: 8Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (emphasis mine)

We cannot take a lackadaisical approach to our obedience and striving to walk in Christ's righteousness any more than God took a lackadaisical approach to our Salvation. Both should be the same intensity.

As a side note, this church was told by Christ to "wake up". I find it interesting the same notion is being pushed on America in the terms of "woke". It strikes me as the meaning of woke and being awake are vastly different things. I think most would agree that being awake is not necessarily a bad thing but being woke is on the negative side of God's economy. The US Military is being forced into this woke agenda and this is what the former Secretary of Veteran Affairs Robert Wilki had to say:

""The woke agenda — is probably the most corrosive and pernicious thing the military has encountered in decades. In fact, I can't think of anything more destructive than what we're seeing now, and the politicization of the officer corps."

Just like this church is being told to wake up, I think America in general should take the same advice. Wake up and see that this is Satanically inspired to bring about what God told us was coming, the End of Times infused with the Wrath of God. Wake up America, wake up Believers the time is drawing near.

<u>2</u>Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God.

Vs 2 summary

God was warning not just the leadership in Sardis to wake up but the entire Body of Christ. Put their energy into the things which remain but are nearing death, resuscitate your joy, your love of Christ if those are your weak points in Christ. The declaration of God finding their works not perfect says they are doing it in the flesh and not in and by the Holy Spirit.

3Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

I hate to keep going back to 2 Kings 6:5 but it is so precise in a visual description of God wants us to do when we find ourselves as Believers feeling separated from God due to sin. We are to remember where we lost that connection with God. We are to return to that point as our new starting point. God is telling the leadership of Sardis to remember how they first came to a saving knowledge of the Messiah, and it was with great joy and happiness. They are to return to that joy in and of the Lord Jesus Christ. They are to cling to "hold fast" to that Joy and repent of their sin of neglect.

Not carrying out this simple task will lead to the next part of

vs 3..... If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

The idea of coming as a thief is not the notion of stealing something but coming in a secret manner, stealthily without being noticed.

What can we make of this that Jesus would sneak up on them, for what purpose? We are told in vs 5 the potential outcome.

Vs 5......I will not blot out his name out of the book of life

We must use some deductive reasoning here to see the opposite of this declaration. For those who repent and come back to Christ or more likely to Christ their name will not be blotted out.

Q. So what is the opposite of **NOT** having your name blotted out? For those who failed in this command, their names are threatened to be blotted out of the Book of Life.

Summary vs 3 Remember Who saved you and how you were saved and cling to that. If they did not, if we do not then Jesus will come stealthily to the leadership and fellowship and the outcome of that happening is grave.

4Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.

Of the church in Sardis the number of Believers walking with Christ were "few". White garments are a symbol of purity that Christ represents in His white raiment. These few from Sardis obviously had walked in obedience to the Word that they were first taught not being swayed by the evil that the leadership had allowed in the church.

But what of the rest of the home fellowship in Sardis?

Vs 4 Summary Walking in obedience to Christ and in purity will ensure the believer to keep from soiling their white garments a symbol of purity in Christ.

<u>5</u>He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels.

Overcomers of the evil within the church, who repent and return to the Truth will not have their names removed from the Book of Life and WILL be clothed in white raiment, which means with the righteousness of Christ as they enter His Presence. And Jesus will proclaim their names to God the Father as being His Bride.

6He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

The concluding comment by Jesus is a plea, to wake up, listen and respond to what you are hearing.

Message to the Church in Philadelphia

ZAnd to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that

hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth;

Jesus declares Himself as Holy, and True and that He has something of great value.

The key of David is a reference to the Davidic Covenant that God made with David through the prophet Nathan recorded in 2 Samuel 7. David was promised without condition an everlasting kingdom which included Judah, Jerusalem, and Israel. That David and his linage would rule over that kingdom forever. The first temple to be authorized by God would be built by David's son Solomon. The temple on earth was always to be in Jerusalem in controlled by the tribe of Judah in the heart of Israel the nation.

Jesus comes from the tribe of Judah through His mother Mary.

Jesus declares in this verse not only His traits of being Holy and

True but that He alone has the keys of David to the kingdom God

promised David.

Keys represent control or access to something secured. What is secured is; the Nation of Israel, Judah and Jerusalem. Only Christ now has the keys to this everlasting Kingdom. A kingdom only Jesus can open and close.

Vs1 Summary, Jesus is the Holy and True Messiah from the tribe of Judah who has the keys to the Kingdom God promised King

David. Only the Messiah can open and close the door to that Kingdom which will last an eternity.

This kingdom is also a reference to the eternal kingdom of God which all believers will enter.

81 know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name.

The works of this leadership and fellowship are of a noble and Godly nature. They worked tirelessly and sapped their strength in their efforts. They have little strength left and Jesus is revealing the way to victory. Jesus with the keys to the eternal kingdom has opened a door to that kingdom for believers who "keep my word" and "hast not denied my name".

Vs 8 summary; Dedication to keeping God's Word; obedience and not denying Jesus' name are essential factors in entering through the door from this life to eternity with Christ. It is a door that only Jesus can open and only He can shut.

<u>9</u>Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

The same affliction that tested the church in Smyrna also tests Philadelphia leadership and fellowship. This Jewish tendency to require gentile believers to embrace Jewish tradition was heresy to the New Covenant. The only real Jew in this new economy of God was a Jew that accepted Jesus as the Messiah and Savior.

To reject Christ as the Messiah was to align with Satan and his synagogue or temple.

This stubborn affliction of the Nation of Israel will increase over time. These early signs even during this early salvation is an omen of coming events for Israel as a Nation.

Jesus was sent to the Jews first and then to the Gentiles. When the Jews rejected the Messiah, Christ Jesus, they were not abandoned by God as His Chosen people, but they were chastised for their rejection of the True Messiah and held accountable. They like gentiles have to receive Christ as their Savior, there is no other door for any of us.

Jewish pride has always been a stumbling block for the 12 Tribes of Israel (Jacob). Moses was troubled time and again by the rebellion of the tribes against God and His Law.

Deuteronomy 31: <u>26</u>Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee. <u>27</u>For I know thy rebellion, and thy stiff neck: behold, while I am yet alive with you this day, ye have been rebellious against the LORD; and how much more after my death? <u>28</u>Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and

earth to record against them. 29 For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt yourselves, and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.

Moses was prophetic in his description of the Nation of Israel during the time of this writing and the end times which we see now. The Jews throughout this time period hated the Gentiles and looked down on them. God in Revelation 3:9 told the Jews that they would turn from hating the Gentiles to worshipping at their feet. This has been born out since 1948 that the only friend Israel has had for centuries are the gentile nations.

The Arab nations have hated the Jews and want their total destruction. If not for the Gentile nations that have been blessed by God especially for Great Brittan (Tarshish) and America (the young lions) where would the nation of Israel be today. But that has changed today, no longer does Israel have America or Europe to help them and their isolation grows daily.

Deuteronomy 31:29......and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.

God would show Israel that He indeed loved those believing nations of the Gentiles and would use them as a champion of Israel to an end point. That end point is coming to fruition today.

As we see the Gentile nations of America and Europe retreat from conflict that impacts Israel the evil Gentile nations Russia and others that hate Israel will align with the Islamic Nations that want Israel gone and bring about Moses' prophecy as well as fulfilling other prophecies.

What is America and other allies of Israel's response to an invasion by Russia and Islam?

Ezekiel 38: 13Sheba, and Dedan, and the merchants of Tarshish, with all the young lions thereof, shall say unto thee, Art thou come to take a spoil? hast thou gathered thy company to take a prey? to carry away silver and gold, to take away cattle and goods, to take a great spoil? (emphasis mine)

Recap of vs 9

Revelation 3:9Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee.

Vs 9 summary: This problem of people of Israeli heritage; meaning from the 12 tribes of Jacob (Israel) and their continued demands of the new gentile believers accepting Jewish tradition is an afront to Jesus. The essence of this verse is that to be a believer one must put Christ over religion and heritage. The Jews of Philadelphia and Smyrna will be made to worship at the feet of the very people they hold in low esteem the gentile believers. The thing the Jews could not comprehend was this:

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

10Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.

I believe this is a reference to the coming Tribulation period. Even though this message was to a specific church like the other 6 churches the messages have a much broader significance than just the 7 churches and their leaders. We need to take to heart the allegations and commendation that these church leaders and followers of Christ were given. Those who walk in obedience to Christ in these end times will be kept from the hour of temptation (The Day of the Lord) the great day of wrath, as it is called.

Revelation 6: <u>17</u>For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

11 Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.

This crown that is spoken of by Christ is not a crown of "salvation" but the crown that will be fitted with jewels of rewards. It is incumbent upon us to "hold that fast". To hold fast is to walk in obedience to God's Word.

Q. Can man or devil steal our salvation?

John 10: <u>25</u>Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. <u>26</u>But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. <u>27</u>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: <u>28</u>And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. <u>29</u>My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. <u>30</u>I and my Father are one. (emphasis mine)

The idea that our crowns, which there are 5 listed in the New Testament, can be stolen, or taken is a valid concern. The crowns are:

1. THE INCOMEDIATION OF COMMITTEE OF CONTINUING OF	The Incorruptible Crown 1	Corinthians 9:	25
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2.	The Crown of Rejo	oicing 1	Thessalonians 2:19-20
		3	

3. The Crown or Righteousness	2 Timothy 4:8
4. The Crown of Life	James 1:12

5. The Crown of Glory 1 Peter 5:4

October 10, 2021

We are continuing with the Church in Philadelphia

12Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name.

There are several interpretations of this "pillar in the temple of my God". One is that the overcomer will be as or like a pillar in God's Temple. Pillars are indicative of strength and support. There were two pillars in the original Temple constructed in Jerusalem; Jachin meaning; "He will establish", and Boaz, meaning; "in Him is strength". The overcomer might be considered in either of both of those descriptions. Combined you get the idea that the overcomer is established by God and God gives the overcomer strength.

Another interpretation is the idea that God will use the obedient and tenaciousness of the Believer like a pillar in the New Jerusalem and inscribe on the pillar the name of God and the name of the new city that comes down at the end of the time after the Great White Throne Judgement.

Revelation 22: 3And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: 4And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. 5And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

In any case the victorious believer will be rewarded for his or her faithful allegiance to Christ the Savior and His Father if by no other means being in the presence of Trinity.

13He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

Nothing more needs to be added. Wake up Church, wake up believers to include myself! We don't have much time left so we should make use of every minute we have to share Christ with others.

We have seen 6 church leaders and those who fellowship together receive both commendation and condemnation. A precious two of the 6 receiving only commendations.

Now we come to a church leadership and those fellowshipping with no redeeming qualities. If you consider this final church as the condition of churches in general in our time it is a frightening thing to consider. Who can you trust, who is benevolent or who has selfish intent in leadership? If we look to our government at almost any level we see no redeeming qualities, the same with our news organizations, our courts, and many nonprofit organizations. It is all about power, money and deceit.

Message to the Church in Laodicea

(<u>Colossians 2:1-5</u>)

Remember as we go through this Laodicean fellowship we are likely seeing God describe the condition of mankind this very day. Those who are attending churches all around this world are being described by God in this church of Laodicea. And this is not even

including all the cults that operate worldwide claiming to be the sole purveyor of truth to the world. There is but one Church, it has no name other than Jesus Christ, make no mistake it is the only one and He Jesus is its head. It is your responsibility to study God's Word so you are not deceived by me or anyone one else that teaches God's Word.

14And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

Jesus to the leadership of the church in Laodicea declares He is the Amen meaning Jesus is the Truth. He is Faithful unto death to God the Father's Will, and the True witness of the Father in Heaven, who was the beginning of the creation (all things) of God. Jesus declares He is God.

15 know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

Works are defined by Truth, God's Truth and not our own. God decides what is righteous as to works of those who claim they love Him. Simply if it is not called for by God, carried out in His Name and for His Glory it will not be a righteous work. Righteous works would in this verse be Hot, tested by the Fire of God and found to be righteous.

If the works are cold then they would be of the flesh, thought up by man, carried out in the flesh for personal gain, power or recognition. These people are clearly in the unsaved category, either oblivious to Truth or they are walking 100% with Satan and want only his power. Those are obviously far from God's Righteousness.

The middle ground, between the obvious cold fleshly works of man and the works generated by God is the deadly ground of mediocre. It has at times the appearance of being Godly but in its nature and origin is the flesh of man and therefore an abomination before God.

Isaiah 64: 6But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.

Without the power of the Holy Spirit, the comforter that Jesus sent to us to indwell us, our works are as those in the Old Covenant. With the power of the Holy Spirit and our desire to serve God our works can be found righteous if originated by Him, carried out for Him for His Glory, anything else is still a filthy rag.

The reason God would they were either hot or cold is that hot is where He wants us, cold is where He knows we need Him as our Savior. In between is a dangerous place to dwell in God's Spiritual economy in this world. It is where the vast majority of

humanity lives right now. It is why people think they will go to heaven because they are a good person, they haven't killed anyone. But in the end their own hatred of their brothers and sisters will convict them of the crime of murder.

In fact, they think they know Jesus but really don't or they only know him in their minds, head knowledge, not heart knowledge. Many are convinced they don't need Him; they can save themselves. All these beliefs lead to death.

16So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

Either the cold and/or mediocre response to Jesus and what He died for is the formula for rejection and eternity in Hell.

17Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Q. Is it possible for believers to be convinced that they should consider of greater value the things in this world as opposed to the pure life-giving Blood of our Savior and all that has to offer?

Colossians 2: 8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may

prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Either we have a church and leadership in Laodicea that was filled with unbelievers or faux-believers, or we had believers that gave up the very blood of their Savior for their own fleshly lusts?

Have you ever seen that happen? People that are religious and dedicated to attending church and working within programs that are not True Believers? They work wholly in their own strength, not by the power of the Holy Spirit. It can easily become "their baby", not from, for or through Christ.

It is entirely possible. As a matter of fact, God probably calls us sheep for many reasons not the least of which is our inability to think independently, we as humans prefer to follow the herd. Not studying God's Word for ourselves but having someone else do the hard work of study.

We all played the game called "follow the leader". Do you remember your mom or dad saying to you; "if you friend jumped off the bridge would you do it to?" The blunt inference was that following an idiot makes you an idiot as well. This is not the time to blindly follow self-appointed leaders, it is time to study to show yourself approved of God.

God had something to say about that as well.

Exodus 23:2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil; neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after many to wrest judgment:

God's point was just because a lot of people agree on an issue that is evil does not make the issue righteous or true. We are faced today in America with wholesale allegiance to idiocy. The masses that rely not on God for anything will rely instead on the Foucies, Bidens and Harris' of this world for their direction. They blindly take what ever the leadership says. The leadership uses mass hysteria, misinformation and lies to convince people to do a certain thing. Then those few who resist are cast as evil people not caring about their fellow man.

The churches showed themselves to be no different than the world by buckling to the demand for closure or face arrest. Don't listen to what God says, listen to what we say. It was and is still a lie and millions of church goers listened to their Laodicean leadership and simply fell in line. The few that did not were vindicated by a shaky court system that is plagued with injustice but found the wisdom to follow the US Constitution on this rare occasion. Deferring to God's commandment:

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one

another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

We know that when the Rapture happens there will be many who claim Christianity that are left behind including leadership in many local and worldwide churches of today. Laodicea is emblematic of a generation of faux believers that are driven by the flesh and not the Spirit of God. So, in essence they have never had their hearts circumcised; being lied to by leaders and teachers that are not believers themselves or have totally missed the Truth of God's Word.

Jude 1: 4For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 2: 1But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. 2And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of. 3And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

18 counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Did God ever mention somewhere in the 66 books of the Bible that we should accept what He has to offer? Is it possible that God omitted that, just forgetting to explain how His ways are better than our own ways?

Isaiah 55: 7Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

You will have to take my word for this, but I found that God mentioned our need of Him several times. I can boldly state that He said it more than twice.

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

Who does God love?

1 Timothy 2: 3For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; 4Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. (emphasis mine)

God's heart is that all mankind would be saved. Unfortunately, God's heart's desire will not be met as He allows mankind freewill. It is for mankind to decide about the free gift of Salvation.

20Behold, 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.

Jesus stands at the door of who in mankind?

....."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." (emphasis mine)

Q. Again which of mankind is God speaking of? ANY MAN

21To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

To the individual that overcomes, Jesus declares the overcomer is the victor and will sit with Christ at His Throne, just like He was an overcomer and was allowed to sit at God's Throne.

22He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

What more can God and Jesus Christ His Son and His Holy Spirit do or say?

We have seen this in each church, the salutation that declares that victory is available even to the worst of the assembly's individual participants, and leadership. God does not save churches or religions; He saves people. He uses believers that bind together as a means of bringing the Truth to the World.