

**"You've Got Everything, But You've Got Nothing"**  
**Revelation 3:14-22**

**Intro:**

- \* Talk about people who have everything and apparently seems to lack nothing
- \* Illustration: Some students at Pine Ridge (Nate Kanter, Alex Martin)
- \* Make the point that when we think of these people, we usually think of non-believers  
We almost expect this of non-believers whose money often becomes their God

**Transition:** The troubling thing about the situation in the church in Laodicea is that they have a huge spiritual condition problem because of the discrepancy between the way they see themselves and the reality of how Jesus sees them

They see themselves as:

**1. Having Everything and Needing Nothing: (verse 17)**

- A. Saying we are rich and do not need a thing! (*this is spiritual arrogance*)
- B. This is everyone in the church, including the pastor

But Jesus sees them as:

**2. Having Nothing and Needing Everything: (verses 15-17)**

- A. Jesus knows you and your deeds and knows the truth

They should know better (Colossians 2:1-3; 4:15-16)

- B. You are lukewarm (useless, good for nothing)

He wishes they were either cold or hot because both are beneficial, but lukewarm is not!

Illustration (John Bever): Cold-don't know God and know they don't know God

Hot-know God and looks like they know God

Luke Warm-think they know God and therefore don't think they need God

this is a person who can blend with the cold  
or blend with the hot

Jesus will spit them out: He will spit them out because they are not really part of the body; spit out rather than ingested because they are not beneficial to the body

Illustration (John Bever): can't vomit a steak on a plate

because it is not in the body

can only vomit something out that does not really belong to the body

- C. You are miserable and wretched

- D. You are poor (Matthew 16:19-21; 19:22-24; Luke 12:15-34; 1 Tim 6:17; James 5:2,3)  
You have riches, but they do you no good!

- E. You are blind (

You have eye salve to help you see, but it does you no good!

- F. You are naked (Matt 22:1-14; Romans 13:14; Revelation 16:15)

You have beautiful wool to clothe you but it does you no good!

G. These are the words of the Amen (valid, binding, trustworthy, true)  
Faithful and True Witness (verify what seen heard known)  
The Ruler of God's Creation

**3. Where to Go to Get What You Need: (verses 18-20)**

A. Counseled to buy from Jesus (only Jesus can give them what they really need!)

\* Gold Refined with Fire (1 Peter 1:7) rather than the easy life

\* White Clothes to Wear rather than the black garments of sin

\* Salve to Put On Your Eyes rather than seeing things from a worldly perspective

B. Hear His Voice and Open the Door they have everything they need but the one thing they really need and that is fellowship with Jesus  
You may believe you know Him, but He does not know you

Illustration: Someone may meet Michael Jordan on the street and say, "I know you" and he will say, "who are you"

C. Be Earnest and Repent

D. You will get what you need and a lot more: the right to sit with me on my throne...

**Conclusion:**

**Revelation 3:14-22**  
**Word Studies**

**3:14**

**Amen:**

**Faithful:** True, sure, trustworthy, believable, worthy of credit

**True:** True

**Witness:** One who has information or knowledge of something and hence who can give information, bring to light or confirm something

**Ruler:** Beginning, denoting an active cause

**Creation:** sum total of what has been created

**3:15**

**Know:**

**Deeds:**

**Cold:** As a metaphor: it does not represent spiritual lifelessness or an absence of zeal  
Rather, it signifies a good quality and is analogous to one of the two conditions (hot or cold) in which water proves beneficial

That one's life is neither cold nor hot is to say it is devoid of any good quality

**Hot:** Used figuratively, meaning fervent

**Wish:** An indeclinable particle of wishing or interjection meaning o that! Or would that!

**One or the Other:** Hot or cold

**3:16**

**Lukewarm:** Lukewarm, tepid

The church is likened to lukewarm water, an emetic, something good for little more than inducing vomit and is censured for this blighted condition

Hot and cold represent beneficial qualities just as hot water soothes the body and cold water quenches the thirst

God can't find any redeeming feature of this church because it is spiritually bankrupt

**About To:** Implying purpose, meaning to have in mind, to intend, will  
Present Indicative Active:

**Spit:** To spit out, vomit with contempt

Aorist Infinitive Active:

**Mouth:**

**3:17**

**Rich:** Happy, prosperous, lacking nothing

**Acquired Wealth:** Not rich toward God, meaning laying up no treasure in heaven

Equal to being happy, where it means to make oneself rich because of the belief that in riches there is happiness (1 Cor 4:8)

Perfect Indicative Active:

**Do Not Need:** Of personal need, want

Present Indicative Active:

**A Thing:** Nothing

**Realize:** To perceive, be aware of, understand

Present Indicative Active:

**Wretched:**

**Pitiful:** Worthy of pity, pitiable, full of misery, wretched, miserable

**Poor:** Figuratively, a poor, helpless man, a beggar

**Blind:** Figuratively, in respect to the mind as being blind, ignorant, stupid, slow of understanding

**Naked:** Naked of spiritual clothing (the imputed righteousness of faith)

**Counsel:** To counsel with someone, advise

Present Indicative Active:

**Buy:** To buy a thing

Aorist Infinitive Active:

**Gold:** Spiritually, it denotes the true riches of Christ

**Refined:** To be tried with fire, purified as metals

Perfect Participle Passive:

**Fire:** Of evils, calamities, trials which purify the faith in hearts of Christians as fire tries and purifies precious metals

**Become Rich:** Refers to personal enrichment by appropriating Christ principle of sacrifice

Aorist Subjunctive Active:

**White Clothes:** Symbolically

**Wear:** To clothe oneself, be clothed

Aorist Subjunctive Middle:

**Cover:** To not make apparent, visible, show openly

Aorist Subjunctive Passive:

**Shameful Nakedness:** Spiritual nakedness, being destitute of spiritual clothing of the righteousness which is by faith (cause of the shame)

**Salve:** A topical remedy applied to the eyes

**Put On:** To anoint (sacred), but with mundane meaning such as to rub with eye salve

Aorist Indicative Active:

**Eyes:**

**See:** To be able to see

Present Subjunctive Active:

### 3:19

**Love:** To have affection for someone with Christian love

Present Subjunctive Active:

**Rebuke:** To reprove by chastisement, correct, chastise in a moral sense

Present Indicative Active:

**Discipline:** To correct, chastise

Present Indicative Active:

**Be Earnest:** To make a show of zeal, to profess affection in order to gain someone as a follower

Aorist Imperative Active:

**Repent:** Repent and turn to God from idols

Aorist Imperative Active:

**3:20**

**Here I Am:** Lo and behold! Serving to call attention to something external

**Stand:**

Perfect Indicative Active:

**Door:** Symbolically

**Knock:** To rap at a door for entrance

Present Indicative Active:

**Hear My Voice:** To understand, comprehend

Aorist Subjunctive Active:

**Opens the Door:** Metaphorically, to open the door of the heart meaning to receive willingly

Aorist Subjunctive Active:

**Will Come In:** To enter someone

Future Middle:

**Eat:** In the sense to eat, to banquet, as figurative of Christ's Kingdom

**3:21**

**Overcomes:** To overcome, conquer, subdue

Present Participle Active:

**Give:**

Future:

**Right to Sit:** To sit down

Aorist Infinitive Active:

**Throne:** A seat attributed to kings (Jesus as Messiah)

**Overcame:** Spoken of Jesus and His followers as victorious over the world, evil and all the adversaries of His kingdom

Aorist Indicative Active:

**3:22**

**Has An Ear...Let Him Hear:**