

Chapter 3

1 "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.' 'I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. 2 Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. 3 Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. 4 Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. 5 The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. 6 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

2) Read the parable of the 10 virgins in Matthew 25.

2) From biblehub's topical "virgins" - *The concept of virginity is also used metaphorically in the Old Testament. For example, Israel is sometimes referred to as a virgin, symbolizing the nation's covenant relationship with God. In Jeremiah 31:4, God promises to restore Israel, saying, "Again I will build you, and you will be rebuilt, O Virgin Israel."*

2) According to Matthew 25:7, when did the 5 virgins realize they did not have enough oil?

2) According to Psalm 119:105 and 2 Corinthians 4:6, what is light?

3) Read Luke 12:35-48, what kind of clothing were we expected to wear in verse 35?

3) In Revelation 16:15 Jesus comes as a thief, what worldwide event was happening in verse 14?

4) Read Malachi 3:1-5. What can be used in verse 2 to make soiled clothing white?

4) In Malachi 3:5 what are the things that stain and soil our clothing?

5) Read Psalm 69 to see what may blot our names out of the book.

7 "And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write: 'The words of the holy one, the true one, who has the key of David, who opens and no one will shut, who shuts and no one opens. 8 "I know your works. Behold, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. 9 Behold, I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but lie—behold, I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. 10 Because you have kept my word about patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth. 11 I am coming soon. Hold fast what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. 12 The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. 13 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

7) Isaiah 22:22 mentions the key of David, here is a quote from biblehub study bible: *This part of the verse emphasizes the absolute authority and sovereignty of the one who holds the key. In the context of Eliakim, it indicates his decisive power in the administration of the kingdom. Spiritually, this is seen as a foreshadowing of Christ's authority, where His decisions and actions are final and unchallengeable. The imagery of opening and shutting is also reminiscent of the authority given to Peter in Matthew 16:19, where the keys of the kingdom of heaven are mentioned, signifying binding and loosing.*

HISTORICAL CONNECTION: Read about the Great Awakening

HISTORICAL CONNECTION: Research the Ashkenazi Jews, how they claim to be Jews but are not.

10) Read 2 Peter 2:9 and Isaiah 26:20-21.

11) Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, James 1:12 and 2 Timothy 4:7-8.

12) Read about New Jerusalem in Revelation 21.

14 "And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: 'The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation. 15 "I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! 16 So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit (vomit) you out of my mouth. 17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. 19 Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.

Laodicea means People's Rights which is the opposite of AMEN (truly) as shown in Strong's Greek 543: willful unbelief, obstinacy, disobedience. Laodicea received water from 2 sources, one hot, one cold. It was lukewarm by the time it reached the town, so it was neither healing nor refreshing.

16) Read Leviticus 18:24-29.

17) Read James 5:1-5:11.

17) Read Romans 7:22-25.

17) Paul writes about being pitied in 1 Corinthians 15:19-28.

17) Read Luke 4:18-19 concerning the poor.

17) Luke 6 shows the parable of the log in a person's eye causing them spiritual blindness. Start at verse 27 to see the commands of Jesus to avoid this blindness.

18) Read 1 Corinthians 3:10 on gold refined in fire.

18) Read Colossians 3:12-17 and 1 Peter 5:5 on how to properly clothe yourself.

19) Take to heart the efforts of discipline from a good father in Hebrews 12:3-17.

19) Turn and repent as shown in Ezekiel 14:6 and 18:30.

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 eat with him, and he with me. 21 The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered 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."

20) Study the parable in Luke 12:35-40.

21) Read Revelation 21 to see how the church is sitting on thrones as the Laodicean church here sits on thrones.

21) Read these verses on the disciples sitting on thrones in the Kingdom with Jesus: Luke 22:29-30, Matthew 19:28