

## Church of the Laodiceans - Handout

"The message to the church of the Laodiceans is a startling denunciation, and is applicable to the people of God at the present time." EGW Test., Vol. 3, p. 252

The message will cause a shaking in the church, and is required to be heeded before the latter rain comes.

**Rev. 3:14** - Are the credentials of who is talking to us.

**Amen:** So be it / Certainty / Confidence

**Faithful and True Witness:** The witness you want to get your facts from to make judgements on.

**Beginning of the creation of God:** here from the beginning - John 1:1-3. The Lord knows we would need to be told to believe Him.

**Rev. 3:15-17** - Our works and condition are deplorable to God, but we act like our works aren't and we don't even know it. We are being a false witness Prov. 6:16-19. The core of the issue is that we have SELF still intact.

"Christ's plan is the only safe one. He declares, "Behold, I make all things new." "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." Christ gives man no encouragement to think that He will accept a patchwork character, made up mostly of self, with a little of Christ. This is the condition of the Laodicean church." EGW 6BC 1101.5

"The voice of the True Witness has been heard in reproof, but has not been obeyed. Men have chosen to follow their own way, instead of God's way because self was not crucified in them." EGW Test. Vol. 5, pp 719, 720

"Satan can present a counterfeit so closely resembling the truth that it deceives those who are willing to be deceived, who desire to shun the self-denial and sacrifice demanded by the truth." EGW Great Controversy, 528

**Rev. 3:18** - "The gold is faith and love, the white raiment is the righteousness of Christ, the eyesalve is that spiritual discernment which will enable you to see the wiles of Satan and shun them, to detect sin and abhor it, to see truth and obey it" EGW Test., Vol. 5, p. 233

**Love:** 1 Cor. 13 - all these virtuous works profit me nothing without love.

**Faith:** Is belief in who God says He is, but also trust in who He says He is.

**Robe:** "The righteousness by which we are justified is imputed; the righteousness by which we are sanctified is imparted. The first is our title to heaven, the second is our fitness for heaven."—EGW, in R. H., June 4, 1895.

Satan's power is broken when we fully receive this, but we can only do so when we aren't neglecting known sin or duties.

**Eye Salve:** Two key deceptions of Satan: 1. God's character is selfish. 2. That we were made to be independent of God.

"The hidden principal of all sin is a rejection of the will of God, the refusal to acknowledge dependence upon Him." EGW "The Unfaithful Husbandmen," September 20, 1899; Manuscript 134, 1899

**Rev. 3:19** - Everyone is given light and conviction to move forward in it. Satan tricks us by excuses or distractions. Plead with the Lord for rebuking and chastening! Have you given Him rulership over your finances, time, health, appetite, reputation, job, marriage, children?

**Rev. 3:20** - The character of Jesus is seeking you out, but also waits until invited in. If you decide to not follow in the light He asks you to, you are asking Him off the throne of your heart. He will sadly step down. Remember the parable of the clean empty heart? Matthew 12:43-45

**Rev. 3:21** - "Those who come up to every point, and stand every test, and overcome, be the price what it may, have heeded the counsel of the True Witness, and they will receive the latter rain, and thus be fitted for translation." EGW Lift Him Up 375.2

**Rev. 3:22** - Make sure you've heard the message from the True Witness. God is testing every heart on all points. The Lord says "be holy as I am holy."

"Only those who are living up to the light they have will receive greater light. Unless we are daily advancing in the exemplification of the active Christian virtues, we shall not recognize the manifestations of the Holy Spirit in the latter rain. It may be falling on hearts all around us, but we shall not discern or receive it." EGW Last Day Events 195.4

It's far easier to DO for God, then to BE for God. Church family it's time to do just what Jesus said we need to do. In Luke 9:23 "Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

Resources for further study:

Your BIBLE

<https://m.egwwritings.org/>

<https://justifiedwalk.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Gods-last-effort.pdf>