

Sermon Notes
June 5, 2022
“Living On Fire”
Revelation 3:14-22



In asking God to set your heart on fire, you are asking Him to consume you from the inside out, allowing your heart soul and mind to come fully alive with the desires of God. To be so overwhelmed by passion and love for God that you won't be able to contain it. You will want more of His character and more of His presence because you will never ever be able to get enough of His Holy Spirit, following His lead wherever He takes you! And maybe most of all you will burn with the desire to tell everyone you meet about how wonderful God's love is how He wants us all to live out eternity with Him!! Our great and true hope!

Come Holy Spirit Come!



Jesus' Letter to the Laodiceans

1. **Jesus' Direct Accusation:** “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish that you were cold or hot because you say, I am rich and have need of nothing, and do not know you are wretched, miserable, blind and naked. (Rev. 3:15, 17)
2. **Jesus' Righteous Warning:** So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot. I will vomit you out of my mouth. (Rev 3:16)
3. **Jesus' Wise Council:** 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. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.
4. **Jesus' Invitational Promise:** 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. 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.

Recap - 7 Churches – Revelation 2 & 3

Church	Accusation	Counsel	Promise
Ephesus	Lost First Love	Repent	Eat From the Tree of Life
Pergamum	Sexual Immorality	Repent	Hidden Manna White Stone - New Name
Thyatira	Jezebel, fornication, adultery	Repent	Authority over the nations; the morning star
Sardis	Dead Church	Repent	Will not block their name out of the book of life.
Laodicea	Lukewarm	Repent	Sit with Jesus on His throne

Smyrna - Stay Faithful - Crown of Life Philadelphia – Hold Fast – New Jerusalem



My Heart is on FIRE for God

What does it take to set your heart on fire for God and keep that fire burning?

God is a relational God that desires our love but does not make us love Him. He will set our hearts on fire if we let him! The biggest example we have is that day in Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4) when the fire of the Holy Spirit literally landed on them like tongues of fire and descended into their hearts! It does not have to be quite that dramatic for the outcome to be the same! The Disciples, who had been reluctant, fearful and doubting, underwent a dramatic transformation; willing to go and tell the world! If the world could not hear and came against them, it did not make their message any less true and in fact made them more fervent in their appeal, even onto death.

Jesus' Wise Council – Revelation 3:18-19

“I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in fire, that you may be rich” (Rev. 3:18a NKJV)

Jesus is saying that rather than seeking the wealth of this world, buy from Jesus Gold that has been purified, tested and refined with fire. The gold is the gold of faith, which is worth far more than all of the gold of this world...eternal gold.

1 Peter 7:1 “so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

God desires believers to be rich in faith – pure and genuine faith, refined by fire! By the power of God, through faith, believers are refined as our faith is exercised. Even in persecution, God assures deliverance and eternal inheritance for those that hang in there!

“...and white garments, that you may be clothed, that your nakedness may not be revealed” (Rev. 3:18b NKJV)

The Laodiceans, and us here today, can be dressed in white garment, garments of triumphant righteousness, not their own (or our own). Righteousness Christ imputed to them, a righteousness made real in their, and our, lives through the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

How blessed are we that believe and hold true to our faith, receiving all the needed forgiveness as we truly repent and transform along the way? Our sin covered by the blood of Jesus, dressed in the white garments necessary to enter the throne room of our heavenly Father...for the Laodiceans and us here today, Jesus is saying come to me all ye who are heavy laden, my yoke is easy and my burden light.

Why is Jesus’ yoke easy and burden light? Could it be possible that each of us have been perfectly designed exactly the way we needed to be, to fit right in? Capable and able to carry out the work He has designed for us to do, with His help, His knowledge, His strength and in community with His people.

“...and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see” (Rev. 3:18c NKJV)

The eye salve of the Holy Spirit, so that they may see their true state. Don’t we all need, as they did, the help of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to have a clear picture of Christ, of heaven, and the things of the Spirit?

Jesus has promised that He will guide believers into all truth; the truth of the Gospel, the truth of God’s Word. Incredibly powerful eye salve used by the Lord to open the eyes of our hearts!!

“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.” (Rev. 3:19a NKJV)

Jesus would not rebuke if He did not love. His rebuke of the Laodiceans was necessarily harsh as we saw in the Lord’s warning to them: “You are lukewarm. I am going to vomit you out of my mouth!” Jesus’ love is a love of great affection. The Holy Spirit convicts and convinces by proof of the sin that has been committed. In the case of the Laodiceans, the sin was their great affection for things of this world, lukewarm, needing of nothing, not even God! The Holy Spirit rebukes the world!

“My child, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, or lose heart when you are punished by Him, for the Lord disciplines those whom he loves and chastises every child whom He accepts.”

We can, and should, praise and shout: thank you Lord for accepting me and for your discipline! Your love is so great that you do not want anyone to perish!!

“Therefore be Zealous and REPENT!” (Rev. 3:19b NKJV)

Jesus was urging the Laodiceans to rise up out of their lukewarm state...repent and be zealous for the Lord!! If they delayed or refused, Jesus would indeed spit them out of His mouth! Repentance would mean a major change of heart and attitude...they must become hot, instead of lukewarm! Heed the warning. Turn away from the worldly focus...Go about the Lord’s work with great zeal; loving the Lord because He loved them (and us) FIRST!!

There is a powerful message in this passage. Jesus did not just tell them they needed to repent and change. His final words were (and are) an even greater demonstration of His love, as He made a promise.

The Invitational Promise

“Listen! I am standing at the door knocking, if you hear My voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with Me. (Rev. 3:20 NRSV)

Jesus is taking His stand outside of the door, whether that be the door of this building or the door to our homes, or the doors of our hearts! He is saying let me in! I, Jesus the Christ, want to sit down and eat with you and you with me!! The image of the breakfast table, or having supper with Jesus sitting right there at the family table. Jesus does not force Himself on anyone. We are the ones, whether as a community of believers, or individuals, that need to open the door to our hearts and let Him in!



Jesus is knocking! Jesus is saying...

- Are you ready to let Me in completely?
- I would love to have a meal with you and talk!
- I am here for Bible Time!
- Let's pray together!
- We have kingdom Work to do! Are you ready to go?
- Join me for worship and fellowship with your brothers and sisters!

Jesus is banging away on all of our doors...maybe not because we have not let him before, just not all the way in, surrendering all areas of lives to him. Jesus is knocking and the knocking cannot be ignored. Please don't ignore Him. The consequences of ignoring Jesus are dire, the reward for overcoming, conquering and abiding in Him is spectacular!

“To the one who conquers I will give a place with Me on My throne, as I Myself conquered and sat down with My Father on His throne.” (Rev. 3:21)

After the victory at Calvary and the resurrection, Jesus ascended to his Father's throne.

“So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.” (Mark 16:19)

Jesus is in heaven now as High Priest and Advocate, interceding for us as believers.

“My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous,” (1st John 2:1)

Jesus conquered and ascended into heaven. We too can conquer. Jesus is our advocate, our strength, our wisdom for all things while we remain in these fragile bodies here on earth. If we allow Him to set our hearts on fire, we can conquer and overcome.

There will come a time when the God the Father will make His enemies His footstool, defeating them completely. He will come back in triumph to reign on earth in final fulfillment and redemption of His Kingdom to come. The overcomers who have shared with Christ in His triumph over sin and Satan, will share His throne! Let us be among those who conquer! Ask Him right here, right now to consume you from the inside out. Pour out His Spirit afresh on you and in you! Set your heart on fire in such a way that you cannot contain your love and you become compelled to spill the love and His Spirit in all ways that He asks...that is called exercising your faith!!

