

# WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW CAN HURT YOU

*A warning against being lukewarm*

Revelation 3:14-22

## **Introduction:**

A. Ignorance can hurt you

1. Not knowing the s\_\_\_\_\_ limit
2. Not knowing that you have c\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Not knowing your s\_\_\_\_\_ condition.

B. This message is a warning against the spiritual condition called lukewarm.

## **The lukewarm condition is d\_\_\_\_\_ to Christ (14-16)**

A. Jesus identifies Himself as a person of authority

1. The A\_\_\_\_\_ - this word means truly. Jesus is the t\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 14:6)
2. The faithful and genuine w\_\_\_\_\_ - Jesus only spoke what the Father commanded (Jn 5:19).
3. The beginning (NIV – ruler) of God's c\_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. The Greek word is arche and can mean the beginning of something or authority.
    - 1) It is used as a prefix in archangel (h\_\_\_\_\_ ranking angel)
    - 2) It is translated as principalities by the KJV and ruler by other versions in Col 1:16; 2:10.
    - 3) It is translated as beginning in Col 1:18, which term is explained in the rest of the verse as having authority in e\_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Jesus has absolute a\_\_\_\_\_

B. We are to listen and respond to Jesus words about our spiritual condition.

1. Jesus tells the leader of the church that he was

- a. Not h\_\_\_\_\_ (literally, boiling = on fire for the Lord)
- b. Not c\_\_\_\_\_ (in blatant r\_\_\_\_\_ against the Lord)
- c. L\_\_\_\_\_ (the city piped hot water from hot springs six miles away, but it was lukewarm by the time it reached Laodicea.

2. Why is the lukewarm condition the worst condition to be in?
  - a. Because Jesus will s\_\_\_\_\_ the person in this condition out of his mouth (a picture of expecting to drink cold refreshing water but it turns out to be lukewarm).
  - b. Because it is a spiritual condition that is d\_\_\_\_\_
    - 1) You do not know that you are w\_\_\_\_\_ and pitiful.
    - 2) What is the solution in getting out of the condition of being lukewarm if we cannot detect it?

**The solution to the lukewarm condition:**

**A. Detach prosperity from spirituality (17)**

1. This leader thought that because he was financially s\_\_\_\_\_ and emotionally fine that he was okay spiritually.
2. Financial and emotional well-being are not measures of spirituality.
  - a. Abraham was financially rich and found himself in unstable circumstances but was spiritually r\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. The leader of the church in Smyrna was financially d\_\_\_\_\_ but spiritually rich.
3. This leader believed he was in need of n\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. W\_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Had the best c\_\_\_\_\_ (black wool)
  - c. Had access to the best m\_\_\_\_\_ (eye salve)

**B. Depend upon Christ's spiritual provisions (18)**

1. Buy from Jesus gold r\_\_\_\_\_ by fire
  - a. M\_\_\_\_\_ should be the enricher of our lives.
  - b. Depend upon Jesus to enrich your life
2. Buy from Jesus w\_\_\_\_\_ garments
  - a. Black wool made the leader look good but it did nothing to enrich his c\_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. Jesus wants us to clothe ourselves with His character – e.g. h\_\_\_\_\_.

3. Buy from Jesus e\_\_\_\_\_ salve.
  - a. No medicine can cure poor spiritual sight.
  - b. Jesus provides the c\_\_\_\_\_

**C. Detect Christ's voice and respond (19,20)**

1. Jesus tells the leader that He d\_\_\_\_\_ those whom He loves.
  - a. This is a quote of Prov 3:12 and Heb 12:1-11 is a commentary on this proverb which basically tells us that God disciplines only those who are truly His c\_\_\_\_\_. He does not discipline unbelievers.
  - b. Jesus changes the word for love from agape to a word that means to be f\_\_\_\_\_ of
  - c. We are to love our enemies but are not required to be fond of them. Therefore, Jesus viewed this leader as true believer.
2. Jesus states that He will keep knocking and working to get the lukewarm Christian's attention.
  - a. If you hear His voice but don't let Him in, you have moved from lukewarm to blatant r\_\_\_\_\_.
  - b. If you hear His voice and let Him in, He will r\_\_\_\_\_ you to being on fire for Him.
  - c. You can detect His voice by the B\_\_\_\_\_, by other Christians, by circumstances that grab your attention.

*If anyone has an ear, listen to what the Spirit is saying*