

Intro  
 0:00  
 in the Bible we have  
 0:03  
 it's an interesting book  
 0:04  
 oh it's an interesting compilation of  
 0:07  
 books  
 0:10  
 and in the books we have a lot of people  
 0:13  
 a lot of places a lot of Customs a lot  
 0:16  
 of traditions that we are foreign to  
 0:18  
 that are foreign to us  
 0:21  
 and we don't understand this or  
 0:24  
 understand the Bible at times  
 0:26  
 because of all these things that are  
 0:28  
 foreign to us  
 0:31  
 and because they are foreign to us we  
 0:34  
 sometimes  
 0:37  
 take scripture out of context  
 0:41  
 and sometimes we misinterpret scripture  
 0:44  
 we misread scripture  
 0:48  
 and there are times when we read our  
 0:50  
 situation into scripture  
 0:53  
 rather than reading what God has for us  
 1:01  
 so let us power heads in prayer this  
 1:03  
 morning  
 1:05  
 Lord we I pray that you will please open  
 1:08  
 up your word to us  
 1:13  
 and that your word opens up to us father  
 1:16  
 in a way that your truth will minister  
 1:19  
 to us  
 1:20  
 pray that your holy spirit will lead us  
 1:23  
 and guide us as your teacher as the  
 1:25  
 teacher and counselor of your word  
 1:27  
 in Jesus name we pray  
 1:30  
 amen  
 1:32  
 so today I'm going to teach from The  
 1:34  
 Book of Revelations chapter 3 verse 14  
 1:38

to 22 about the lukewarm church or the  
 1:42  
 church in laodicea  
 1:45  
 now in in chapter one we have in the  
 1:48  
 Book of Revelation we have  
 1:50  
 John exiled on the island of Patmos and  
 1:54  
 then he he receives this vision and  
 1:57  
 Revelations from Jesus Christ in  
 1:59  
 chapters 2 and 3  
 2:02  
 he speaks to the seven churches now  
 2:05  
 in the vision Jesus appears to him  
 2:09  
 standing among seven candlesticks or  
 2:12  
 lampstands  
 2:14  
 and in his hand he's holding Seven Stars  
 2:18  
 we we know from scripture  
 2:22  
 that the seven candlesticks represent  
 2:24  
 the seven churches of that time  
 2:27  
 and that the Seven Stars in his hands  
 2:30  
 are The Messengers to those churches  
 2:36  
 so this morning I'd like to just  
 2:41  
 open up or unpack  
 2:44  
 the scripture of the church in laodicea  
 2:47  
 to you can we just go back  
 2:53  
 just to the title Please Junior  
 2:59  
 junior is running away ahead of us  
 The Church in Laodicea  
 3:02  
 but if you if you read  
 3:04  
 the letters to the seven churches Jesus  
 3:08  
 has good things  
 3:10  
 and negative things to say about six of  
 3:13  
 the churches the first six churches  
 3:15  
 in the last church the church in  
 3:18  
 laodicia  
 3:19  
 he has nothing good to say about them  
 3:22  
 actually he's he only  
 3:26  
 comes out with one Stern statement  
 3:30  
 to introduce the church in laodicea  
 3:35

and this is worrying this is terrible  
3:37  
now theologians believe  
3:41  
that the seven churches represent the  
3:43  
seven eras of church history  
3:47  
and they further believe that the the  
3:50  
seventh church the church in laodicea  
3:53  
represents the Church of our times now  
3:56  
they believe that but I'm not going to  
3:58  
get into that I don't want to confirm I  
4:00  
argue or whatever I'll leave that to the  
4:03  
theologians and the historians what I  
4:06  
want to talk about what I want to share  
4:07  
with you is the state of the church in  
4:10  
laodicea at that time  
4:14  
now let's  
4:17  
just look at the next one please  
4:21  
okay just a little background of the  
4:23  
church in laodicea now was it it was a  
4:26  
successful city right they had a very  
4:30  
successful financial center bankings and  
4:33  
all these things was hap happening there  
4:35  
and they had a thriving textile industry  
4:38  
or garment industry that specialized in  
4:41  
black wool  
4:42  
we all see how sheep our local sheep all  
4:45  
have white wool but this was black wool  
4:47  
and then they had a medical school that  
4:50  
was famous for an eye ointment and I  
4:52  
self  
4:54  
but in 60 A.D or CE  
4:57  
the city was hit by an earthquake which  
5:00  
destroyed the general area including the  
5:02  
city of laodicea now the Romans who were  
5:04  
the Imp uh reigning Empire at that time  
5:07  
offered to build to rebuild laodicea  
5:11  
but the citizens refused the offer they

5:15  
declined the offer and they said no  
5:17  
we'll do it ourselves  
5:19  
we'll build it ourselves where we're  
5:21  
rich enough to do things ourselves to  
5:24  
rebuild our city the way we want to  
5:26  
rebuild it  
5:27  
so they did now this act of rebuilding  
5:30  
the city and the fact that they were  
5:32  
prosperous and well to do and there had  
5:35  
everything going for them made them a  
5:37  
bit prideful and boastful as Citizens  
5:40  
and as a church  
5:44  
so with that in mind this is the setting  
5:47  
that we come we walk into at this church  
5:51  
in laodicea  
5:54  
thank you  
5:57  
next  
5:58  
next  
5:59  
okay now we I'm gonna this is a bit of a  
Teaching  
6:02  
more of a teaching than a a sermon for  
6:05  
for you this morning  
6:07  
Revelations chapter 3 verses 14 to 22  
6:10  
and to the verse 14 and to the angel of  
6:13  
the Church of the laodiceans write these  
6:16  
things says the amen the faithful and  
6:19  
true witness the beginning of the  
6:21  
creation of God Jesus establishes  
6:23  
himself as who he really is we  
6:26  
acknowledge that if we read it backwards  
6:28  
he says the beginning of the creation of  
6:30  
God God Jesus was there in the beginning  
6:32  
John 1 1 says  
6:34  
in the beginning was the word and the  
6:36  
Word was with God and the Word was God  
6:38  
and he says the faithful and true

6:40  
 witness we acknowledge Jesus being the  
 6:43  
 witness for cry for Father God during  
 6:46  
 his time of ministry here on Earth and  
 6:49  
 then he complete he begins it by saying  
 6:51  
 the amen which is the completion of all  
 6:55  
 things when he died on the cross  
 6:57  
 for our Salvation amen  
 7:03  
 when he says I know your works  
 7:06  
 that you are neither cold nor hot and  
 7:08  
 this is why I say he Jesus comes  
 7:11  
 straight out in his Revelation and says  
 7:13  
 to the church I know your works or I  
 7:15  
 know your deeds in the other in the  
 7:18  
 letters to the other churches he says  
 7:19  
 good things but here he just goes  
 7:22  
 straight in that you are neither cold  
 7:25  
 nor hot  
 7:27  
 and I could wish or I could wish that  
 7:30  
 you were hot that you were cold or hot  
 7:32  
 now this is a metaphor  
 7:34  
 a metaphor that I'd like to go explain  
 7:37  
 so that it's a bit easier for us to  
 7:40  
 understand  
 7:42  
 as we go forth thank you Adriana  
 Water  
 7:45  
 now if you just have a look here  
 7:47  
 laodicia  
 7:49  
 in the middle there I don't have a laser  
 7:51  
 pointer  
 7:54  
 but is flanked by two  
 7:56  
 um cities hierapolis and colossi now  
 7:59  
 colossae was known for its fresh cold  
 8:02  
 water  
 8:03  
 that came from mountains that surrounded  
 8:06  
 it it was ice it was ice cap Mountain so  
 8:10  
 when the water ran off the mountains it

8:12  
 was cool and cold so they had nice fresh  
 8:16  
 water but hierapolis is known or was  
 8:19  
 known and still is known for uh its uh  
 8:23  
 hot Mineral Springs  
 8:25  
 that is still there today  
 8:27  
 but laodicea said in the in the middle  
 8:30  
 of these two cities so you had hot water  
 8:33  
 coming from the hierapolis and cold  
 8:35  
 water from colossae but the water in  
 8:39  
 Cologne in laodicea itself  
 8:42  
 was lukewarm it was neither hot nor cold  
 8:45  
 they had terrible water  
 8:48  
 the water supply was so bad that they  
 8:51  
 couldn't even drink it  
 8:52  
 and some historians say that they had to  
 8:55  
 bring water from colesi and hierapolis  
 8:58  
 to feed their water system  
 9:03  
 so this is what Jesus is thank you  
 9:05  
 Rihanna so this is what Jesus is  
 9:07  
 referring to he says that you I know  
 9:09  
 your works that you are neither cold nor  
 9:11  
 hot your Deeds your actions are not hot  
 9:14  
 or cold they  
 9:16  
 but I wish you were hot or cold thank  
 9:19  
 you Rihanna  
 9:23  
 so he says in verse 16 so then because  
 9:26  
 you are neither cold nor hot you are  
 9:28  
 lukewarm you're sitting in the middle  
 9:30  
 you're sitting on the fence but I want  
 9:33  
 you either cold or hot  
 9:39  
 it's where's the church is today sitting  
 Cold or Hot  
 9:44  
 on the fence we are neither cold nor hot  
 9:48  
 and if you look at the word cold  
 9:52  
 that  
 9:54  
 he refers to their sucrose

9:57  
 sucrose in Greek means  
 9:59  
 that you are not your heart is not in it  
 10:02  
 you are not for Jesus you are  
 10:06  
 hanging in the balance  
 10:10  
 and  
 10:12  
 destroys or Zestos means you are on fire  
 10:16  
 for Jesus so he says you are either cold  
 10:19  
 nor hot you are not for me neither are  
 10:22  
 you not for me you are sitting in the  
 10:25  
 middle sorry  
 10:27  
 you are sitting in the middle you have  
 10:29  
 one foot for me in my kingdom and the  
 10:32  
 other foot in the Kingdom of the world  
 Wake Up  
 10:35  
 and we've got to wake up to that  
 10:38  
 we have got to wake up to that as a  
 10:40  
 church in this eighth day and age you  
 10:43  
 we've come out with false gospels we've  
 10:45  
 come out with false preachers false  
 10:48  
 teachers we've come out with  
 10:50  
 um  
 10:52  
 first I call it everything that  
 10:56  
 false doctrines  
 10:59  
 and we Elevate this we believe in this  
 11:02  
 because it sounds good to the ear but  
 11:04  
 when Jesus comes out and rebukes us we  
 11:08  
 say Ah that's not right the church  
 11:10  
 shouldn't be doing that but this is what  
 11:12  
 the word of God is it's God's word not  
 11:15  
 our word to God  
 11:17  
 we read ourselves into the situation  
 11:19  
 into the Bible and say ah this is for me  
 11:22  
 this is what it's supposed to be but no  
 11:26  
 God is telling us this is what I want  
 11:28  
 you to be  
 11:30  
 I said I wasn't going to apologize

11:33  
 amen  
 11:34  
 amen  
 11:37  
 Hallelujah  
 11:38  
 and in at the end of verse 16 he says I  
 11:42  
 will vomit you out of my mouth I will  
 11:44  
 spew you out of my mouth  
 11:47  
 you know that feeling  
 11:50  
 gut-wrenching feeling  
 11:52  
 that starts to climb up  
 11:54  
 come up into your throat yeah  
 11:58  
 you've been through that  
 12:00  
 then you have to run somewhere and your  
 12:02  
 eyes start to water  
 12:05  
 yeah then it comes out of your mouth  
 12:07  
 that nasty tastes that nasty bulk even  
 12:10  
 sometimes out of your mouth  
 The Church  
 12:15  
 you've got that and then you have to go  
 12:17  
 and wash your mouth out yeah yeah excuse  
 12:20  
 the description but that's what Jesus  
 12:22  
 thinks about the church  
 12:24  
 he's disgusted with the church  
 12:28  
 he is absolutely disgusted that he he  
 12:31  
 describes it as vomit  
 12:34  
 a spew  
 12:37  
 how many of you love to vomit  
 12:40  
 come on put your hands up how many of  
 12:41  
 you love to vomit yeah Junior's face is  
 12:45  
 all twisted and contortedly  
 12:48  
 yeah it's not the greatest thing it's  
 12:50  
 not the best thing but that's what Jesus  
 12:52  
 sees the church as  
 12:58  
 amen  
 12:59  
 is that the church today  
 13:07  
 Thank You Rihanna  
 Matthew 6 26  
 13:10

Matthew 6 26

13:14  
no one can serve two masters  
13:18  
it's either God or the world the choice  
13:20  
is yours  
13:24  
where do you have your food where do you  
13:26  
have your feet no one can serve two  
13:29  
masters he either he will hate the one  
13:32  
and love the other or else he will be  
13:34  
loyal to one and despise the other  
13:38  
man thank you Rihanna  
13:40  
I'm not going to be long  
13:43  
next  
13:45  
yeah okay now we say in verse 17 Jesus  
13:49  
continues he says  
13:50  
because you say I am rich have become  
13:55  
wealthy and have need of nothing he's  
13:58  
speaking to the church in laodicea he's  
14:00  
saying because you become boastful  
14:02  
because you can do it you say you can do  
14:04  
everything by yourself that you don't  
14:07  
have need for anything he says but this  
14:10  
is how I see you you do not know that  
14:12  
you are rich you are miserable you're  
14:15  
poor you're blind and you're  
14:18  
naked  
14:23  
Jesus sees them as being spiritually  
14:26  
dead  
14:29  
he says you are wretched you're  
14:32  
miserable you're poor you're blind  
14:34  
you're naked that's how Jesus saw them  
14:37  
he saw the churches all those  
14:41  
if someone was to come up to you and  
14:42  
said I see you as miserable poor blind  
14:45  
naked would you  
14:47  
would that sound nice to you  
14:49  
would it be encouraging to you

14:52  
no I don't think it would  
14:56  
Jesus is saying that's how I see you  
14:59  
that's how he sees the church  
15:02  
it says you are wretched miserable poor  
15:04  
and blind Thank You Rihanna  
Isaiah 2913  
15:11  
this is what Isaiah 29 verse 13 says  
15:15  
when Isaiah is speaking to the Jews it's  
15:17  
a similar situation he says the Lord  
15:19  
says these people come near to me with  
15:22  
their mouth and honor me with their lips  
15:26  
he says but their hearts are far from me  
15:31  
we attend service every Sunday and we  
15:34  
have our time of praise and worship and  
15:37  
we have our time at home in prayer we do  
15:40  
the things that look good  
15:45  
but our hearts are not in it  
15:48  
our hearts are far from us  
15:52  
we say the right words to the right  
15:54  
people at the right time  
15:59  
but is it from the heart  
16:06  
pretend Christians  
16:09  
that's what the church was going through  
16:20  
he says they worship me their worship of  
16:23  
me is based merely on human rules on  
16:27  
what we're taught  
16:28  
rather than be being from the heart and  
16:31  
being open worship  
16:34  
loving the Lord with our hearts  
16:37  
Thank You Rihanna  
16:41  
again  
16:44  
Jesus says I counsel you to buy from me  
16:47  
gold refined in the fire  
16:50  
Jesus is saying look for the things that  
16:53  
are from me not from the world  
16:59  
these are the things that I have to

17:01  
 offer  
 17:04  
 so that you may be rich in me  
 Matthew 3  
 17:14  
 he says I have gold refined in the fire  
 17:18  
 he says and I have white garments  
 17:21  
 that you may be clothed and that the  
 17:24  
 shame of your nakedness may not be  
 17:26  
 revealed and anoint your eyes with eye  
 17:29  
 self that you may see  
 17:34  
 refined gold is pure gold  
 17:38  
 it's a good God Jesus wants to refine  
 17:40  
 you wants to cleanse you in his refining  
 17:44  
 fire  
 17:45  
 he needs to do that he says so that you  
 17:48  
 can I can buy for me white garments the  
 17:51  
 purity of his  
 17:53  
 of his spirit in us that you may be  
 17:57  
 clothed in it and that he may cover your  
 18:00  
 nakedness  
 18:06  
 give thanks this morning and then he  
 18:09  
 says anoint your eyes with thyself  
 18:12  
 what the medical school in laodicea was  
 18:16  
 famous for the eye ointment he wants to  
 18:18  
 cleanse  
 18:20  
 and give you spiritual eyes that you can  
 18:23  
 see the things of him  
 18:26  
 Thank You Rihanna  
 18:28  
 as many as I love I rebuke and Jesse  
 18:32  
 therefore be zealous zealous and repent  
 18:35  
 you see Jesus God father God the spirit  
 18:38  
 will always rebuke us if we are wrong  
 18:41  
 and we should be mature enough to take  
 18:47  
 rebuking  
 18:50  
 it's like little kids  
 18:54  
 you know how many of you have kids when  
 18:56  
 you scold them

18:59  
 how many will run  
 19:02  
 and go and hide from you  
 19:07  
 and that's what we do as a church when  
 19:10  
 we get rebuked we run and we hide  
 19:12  
 instead of learning from it and going  
 19:15  
 walking forth and repenting and being  
 19:17  
 zealous for God  
 19:20  
 we need to be strong in our walk with  
 19:23  
 God we need to be mature in our walk  
 19:25  
 with God  
 19:28  
 Thank You Rihanna  
 Behold  
 19:30  
 verse 20 says behold I stand at the door  
 19:33  
 and knock if anyone hears my voice and  
 19:35  
 opens the door I will come into him and  
 19:37  
 sup with him or Dine with him and he  
 19:39  
 with me  
 19:41  
 this is one of the scriptures that off  
 19:44  
 is often taken misused it's used by  
 19:47  
 evangelists to go out and talk to those  
 19:49  
 who are lost who shared those who are  
 19:51  
 lost in the world who need to find Jesus  
 19:54  
 and yet in the true context of it Jesus  
 19:57  
 is talking to the church  
 19:59  
 to those who supposedly know him  
 20:05  
 amen he's not talking to the Lost he's  
 20:08  
 talking to the church  
 20:10  
 he says behold I stand at the door and  
 20:14  
 knock the door of your heart I'm  
 20:16  
 knocking at the door of your heart open  
 20:18  
 it and let me in whoever hears my voice  
 20:21  
 and opens the door whoever individual  
 20:24  
 not the whole church he changes from the  
 20:27  
 church to the individuals he says  
 20:29  
 whoever whichever one of you opens or  
 20:32  
 hears my voice and opens the door he

20:34  
says I will come into human I will come  
20:38  
into him  
20:40  
and sup with him and dine with him this  
20:43  
word sapodine  
20:45  
is the main meal of the day and our main  
20:48  
meals of the day if you're with me here  
20:50  
is sitting at a table and taking time  
20:52  
having a conversation sharing the mail  
20:55  
sharing the word of God that's what they  
20:58  
did in the old times  
20:59  
so he wants to spend time with you he  
21:04  
says and he with me so it's a two-way  
21:09  
it's a relationship it's a two-way  
21:11  
action God wants to spend time with you  
21:14  
and you must spend time with him  
21:18  
it's not one way  
21:20  
it's two ways  
21:22  
it's a relationship that Jesus is  
21:24  
looking for  
21:27  
amen  
21:30  
spending time together  
The Reward  
21:36  
do you have this relationship with  
21:38  
Christ Jesus  
21:45  
thank you Ariana we're almost done here  
21:48  
and the reward the result of this  
21:51  
relationship with him is this to him who  
21:55  
overcomes I will grant to sit with me on  
21:59  
my throne  
22:01  
amen  
22:03  
that's the result  
22:06  
as I also overcame and sat down with my  
22:10  
father on his throne  
22:12  
hallelujah amen praise the Lord  
22:15  
that is the result of your relationship  
22:18  
your true relationship with Christ that

22:21  
is the result  
22:23  
that's the reward  
22:27  
that's something to look forward to amen  
22:29  
it's something to yearn for it's  
22:31  
something to go for it's something to  
22:33  
aim for  
22:40  
Thank You Rihanna  
The Story  
22:46  
he who has an ear let him hear what the  
22:49  
spirit says to the churches  
22:51  
amen  
22:53  
there's a story that's often told about  
22:58  
being real  
23:04  
it's a  
23:06  
story of a zoo  
23:09  
and this Zoo had a lot of it had every  
23:12  
type of animal you could think of it was  
23:14  
on display but one day the gorilla died  
23:18  
and they only had one gorilla  
23:20  
unfortunately so this gorilla died  
23:22  
so the Zookeeper wanting to keep the  
23:24  
image of the zoo  
23:27  
he called up one of the guys he said I  
23:30  
will gave him as a gorilla suit and told  
23:33  
him jump into the gorilla pen or Den Oak  
23:36  
enclosure he said jump into the gorilla  
23:38  
enclosure and act like a gorilla  
23:41  
so the guy wasn't very good at acting  
23:43  
like a gorilla  
23:44  
so he managed to do this and that and  
23:47  
you know how the gorillas monkeys jump  
23:49  
around and then but he went a bit too  
23:51  
close to the side of the the enclosure  
23:54  
and he fell over into the next enclosure  
23:56  
which was the Lion's Den  
23:59  
he looked around and he said this is it

24:02  
I'm dead he started screaming and  
24:04  
yelling and the lion was walking up  
24:06  
closer to him and he screamed his guts  
24:08  
off and he said this is it I'm going to  
24:11  
die the line looks at him stops and says  
24:13  
to him would you shut up we're both  
24:15  
going to get fired  
24:19  
we've got to be real we've got to take  
24:21  
off our costumes  
24:24  
we've got to be real for Jesus  
24:28  
amen  
24:31  
take off those costumes take off the  
24:35  
whatever is blocking your relationship  
24:38  
with God  
24:42  
I'd like to close this morning  
24:50  
just thanking God that  
24:52  
Wherever You Are  
24:57  
ask yourself certain questions ask  
25:00  
yourself this question what is Jesus  
25:02  
saying to me  
25:05  
what is he saying to me  
25:08  
is he asking me about the condition of  
25:10  
my heart  
25:16  
is he asking whether I'm cold hot or  
25:19  
lukewarm  
25:21  
in my walk with him  
25:26  
what's my spiritual  
25:28  
condition  
25:32  
do I need to  
25:34  
be zealous and repent  
25:40  
what's my relationship with God  
25:43  
it's just a checklist for each and every  
25:45  
one of us  
25:47  
what's my relationship with God  
25:52  
am I good enough to overcome  
25:59

am I good enough to overcome and sit  
26:02  
with him at his throne  
26:11  
I'm just going to ask  
26:13  
Junior if we can  
26:15  
just do  
26:16  
The Amazing Grace again  
26:19  
I'd like you to sit where you are  
26:23  
just close your eyes as Junior sings  
26:27  
Amazing Grace and just to receive  
26:33  
the little questions that you need to  
26:35  
ask yourself here and now because  
26:38  
Once you walk out that door  
26:40  
you're on your own  
26:45  
for the week until we meet again  
26:48  
but I want to encourage you ask yourself  
26:50  
those questions  
26:51  
[Music]  
26:58  
as Junior sings  
27:01  
just let the Holy Spirit lead you and  
27:04  
guide you let him ask those questions  
27:11  
don't say Daniel asked those questions I  
27:14  
want you to say this is the spirit asks  
27:17  
the scriptures  
27:18  
[Music]