



**Part 7:
...to Contented People
Rev. 3:14-22**

TLC message for June 25 & 26, 2005

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation." Rev. 3:14

One of the greatest challenges Christians face:

When we're too comfortable we:

• **We neglect our** _____. "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm —neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth." v15-16

• **We become** _____. "You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.'" v17a

• **We become spiritually** _____. "But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked." v17b

How can I avoid the pitfalls of prosperity?

1.

"I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see." v18 (See Isaiah 55:1-3)

Jesus offers me:

• **Rich** _____ "gold refined in the fire" (See 1Pet. 1:7, James 2:5)

• **Real** _____ "white clothes to wear"

• **Right** _____ "so you can see"

2. _____

"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." v19-20

"To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches." v21-22

Daily Meditations

This week's memory verse:

"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." Rev. 3:19-20

Monday

Read back over your notes and read Revelation 3:14-22. In what way do you struggle with self-sufficiency?

Write down at least one thing that you learned from the sermon last weekend.

How can you relate to the church at Laodicea?

What encouraged you most in studying this passage?

Thank God today for your sufficiency in Him. Ask Him to give you the faith to depend on Him.

Tuesday

Read 2 Cor. 2:4-5 & Rev. 3:15-17. When you are feeling too comfortable which of these three do you struggle most with?

_____ Remembering your calling

_____ Becoming complacent

_____ Becoming spiritually clueless

How does that tend to manifest itself?

Think about your life right now. In what way do you see yourself slipping towards self-sufficiency?

What do the verses in 2 Corinthians have to say about self-sufficiency?

Confess to God the areas of your life where you are content to live in your own strength. Pray that your attitude will increasingly reflect an awareness of your competency in Christ.

Wednesday

Read Psalm 62:6-8, 94:22; Acts 17:24-28 & Rev. 3:18. List the ways we can depend on Jesus according to these verses.

Write down three ways these verses encourage you today:

1.

2.

3.

What impact would completely depending on Jesus have on your life?

Thank God today for all that He blesses you with. Thank Him that you are not in charge of supplying all your own needs. Ask Him to help you see His provision for you. Pray that your desire to depend on Him all things will grow.

Thursday

Read Psalm 27:13-14, 62:1-2; Isaiah 55:1, 2 Corinthians 4:18, James. 2:5, & 1 Peter 1:7. What do these verses teach you about:

Jesus' refining fire?

Righteousness?

Jesus' perspective?

Which of these three is hardest for you to depend on? Why?

How could depending on these three things impact your life right now?

Thank God today for the life you have in Him. Thank Him specifically for the faith, righteousness and perspective that He gives you. Pray that what He offers you would be more appealing to you than anything else.

Friday

Read Jeremiah 31:3, John 15:15, Rev. 3:19-22. What is the difference between an acquaintance and friendship? How does Jesus demonstrate His desire for a friendship with the church at Laodicea?

What does a friendship with Jesus mean to you? How does a friendship with Jesus impact your life?

Thank God today that He wants to have a friendship with you. Pray that your relationship with Him will grow more and more into a friendship.

Saturday

Complete any devotions you may have missed and polish up the memory verse. Please pray for the services this weekend. Pray that TLC will thrive during the summer months. Thanks!