

# Dining with Christ

## Revelation 3:14-22

Psalm 81:8-16; Luke 18:9-14



## Do I Have the Holy Spirit?

- Christ ascended into heaven and received the Holy Spirit and then poured that gift unto His brethren. (Psalm 68:18; Ephesians 4:8; Acts 2:33)
- Why did God give His Church His Holy Spirit?
  - ☆ (Ezekiel 36:26-27) To **cause** us to walk (live) in HIS statutes and to keep His judgments. (Ezekiel 11:19-20; John 14:16)
  - ☆ (John 14:26; 15:26) Lead us into TRUTH. To know it and to do it.
  - ☆ (Philippians 2:13) To work in us to **will** and **do** His good pleasure. (Hebrews 13:21)
  - ☆ (Ephesians 1:13-14) As His guarantee that we are His forever. (Eph 4:30; 2 Cor 1:22; 5:5; **2 Tim 2:19**)
  - ☆ (Romans 8:16) The Holy Spirit is **not** a little voice that tells you that you are saved. The Holy Spirit **bears witness** by His fruit flowing out us to others. (Galatians 5:22-23)
  - ☆ (Romans 8:26) To help us in our prayers and to make intercession for us.
- Like all of God's gifts, once we receive them we become stewards of those gifts.
  - ★ We are commanded to "be **filled** (*pleroo*) with the Holy Spirit". (Eph 5:18)
    - So, we deny ourselves and consider others more important than ourselves. (Luke 9:23; Rom 12:10; Matt 20:26-28; Luke 14:10; Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 5:5)
  - ★ We are commanded to "walk in the Spirit". (Galatians 5:16, 25-26; 6:8; Romans 8:1, 4)
  - ★ We are commanded "not to grieve or quench the Spirit". (Eph 4:30; 1 Thess 5:19)
  - ★ We are warned "not to resist the Holy Spirit". (Acts 7:51)
  - ★ We are commanded to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Holy Spirit". (Ephesians 4:3)
- Why is this an important question?
  - ☆ (Romans 8:14) ONLY those who are **led** (guided by; followed) by the

Holy Spirit are the children of God. Those who walk (live by) God's written Word.

- ☆ (1 John 3:6-10) Those walking by the Spirit live according to the commandments of God. (1 John 5:1-3)
- ☆ (1 John 5:1-2) Those walking by the Spirit love their brethren. (1 John 3:10, 14-15)
- ☆ (1 John 1:6-7) Those walking by the Spirit have fellowship with God and His Son. (John 14:21, 23-24)

## To the Church at Laodicea:

### Laodicea: The City

- The city was known for three things:
  - ❶ **WEALTH.**
  - ❷ The manufacture of **BLACK WOOL.**
  - ❸ **MEDICINE CENTER** - It developed an effective **EYE** salve.
- Located in the Lycus Valley.
  - Ten miles west of Colossae and six miles south of Hierapolis.
- Located on a 30 meter high plateau. Militarily it was **SAFE**.
- Their one short-coming: **WATER**. Because of its height it had to pump water along aqueducts (about six kilometers long) from Hierapolis.
- Hierapolis was known for its **WARM** (HOT) baths.
- Colossae was known for its **COLD** refreshing waters.

### Christ's Title (v. 14)

- \* The "**AMEN**", meaning **TRUTH**. (See Isaiah 65:16).
  - "Amen" is used 152 times in the New Testament.
  - See Matthew 5:18; John 3:3, 5; 5:24-25; 6:47; 8:34.
  - Jesus Christ is "**THE TRUTH**". (John 14:6)
- \* "the **FAITHFUL** and **TRUE** Witness"
  - Christ can be **TRUSTED** because He IS faithful. (1 Thess 5:24; 1 Cor 1:9; 10:31; 2 Thess 3:3; 2 Tim 2:13; Heb 10:23; 1 Peter 4:19; 1 John 1:9)
  - Whatever Christ speaks is **TRUE**. See Revelation 21:5; 22:6)
  - This will be Christ's title when He returns with His armies. (Revelation 19:11; Psalm 2:1-4, 10-12; Revelation 19:15)
  - AS Christ is FAITHFUL and TRUE so must WE be.
- \* "the **BEGINNING** of Creation"
  - The **source** of creation. (John 1:3; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:2; Ephesians 3:9; Revelation 22:13)
  - Christ is the **CREATOR** of the Universe. (John 1:3; Colossians 1:16-17; Revelation 1:8; 21:6)

## ***“I Know Your Works . . .”***

(Revelation 3:15)

Christ **knows** our lives!

**EVERYONE WILL ONE DAY GIVE AN ACCOUNT TO CHRIST.**

(Hebrews 4:13; Romans 14:11-12; **PROVERBS 24:12**)

### **Christ’s Commendation (!!!!) NONE!!!!**

#### **Christ’s Criticism (vv. 15-17)**

- They were neither **HOT** or **COLD**.
  - HOT is ζεστός zestos {dzes-tos} which literally means “boiling hot”.
    - See Romans 12:11: It refers to the ZEAL or BURNING DESIRE for the things of Jesus Christ.
  - COLD is ψυχρός psuchros {psoo-chros} which literally means “cold” or “cool”.
    - Matthew 10:42.
    - Christ may be alluding to the cold springs in Colossae.
    - Cold water provides refreshment for the weary traveler, whereas the hot springs provided healing and soothing for the sick or aching or painful joints and muscles.
- Christ wished that the Laodicean were either!
- “I could wish” is a special Greek phrase that express a wish that is unattainable! The Laodiceans were so HARD that they had become **indifferent** to Christ.
- They were **LUKEWARM!**
  - ★ LUKEWARM describes people who are apathetic and indifferent because they “feel” self-sufficient and self-satisfied.
    - “I am rich, I have become wealthy, I have need of nothing.”
    - They were self-sufficient and did not even need GOD!
- The CHURCH at Laodicea was making Christ **SICK!**
  - “vomit” is ἐμέω emeo {em-eh'-o} and is a strong word for “vomit forth” or “to throw up”.
    - See Amos 5:21-23; Isaiah 1:10-17
- They were **USELESS**. They had **SPIRITUAL PRIDE**.
  - Proverbs 8:13; 11:2; 14:3; 16:18; 29:23; **OBADIAH 3**
- They were **IGNORANT** of their own condition!!
  - They were **NEGLECTING** the Word ---- Hebrews 4:12.
- Christ **said** that the Church was **WRETCHED, MISERABLE, POOR, BLIND,** and **NAKED!**
- **NAKED** – without the RIGHTEOUSNESS of Christ. (Isaiah 61:10; Psalm 132:16; Luke 15:22)
- They SHUT Christ OUT of their lives and the life of the Church..

- If they shut Christ out, who did they let in? The **WORLD!**

#### **Christ’s Instruction (vv. 18-20) “I counsel you . . .”**

- ① **BUY** from ME! How can they if they were POOR?
  - Psalm 51:16-17; Matthew 5:3; Proverbs 16:19; 23:23; Isaiah 55:1-3.
  - **GOLD** tried by FIRE. (This is FAITH). - (1 Peter 1:7)
  - **WHITE** garments. **TRUE** holiness.
  - **EYE SALVE**. Illuminating GRACE.
    - ★ Matthew 6:19-23; Psalm 119:11-14, 99-105; Proverbs 16:16.
- ② Be **ZEALOUS**. (See Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14; Romans 12:11-12)
  - PRESENT IMPERATIVE! – Continuous state of mind.
- ③ **REPENT!** (Acts 17:30)
  - ★ A reminder of God’s PROMISE to DISCIPLINE those whom He loves.
    - Hebrews 12:5-6; Proverbs 3:11-12; Job 5:17-18
- ④ **INVITE** Christ to **DINE** with you.
  - Communion and fellowship with Christ - without this a church is DEAD!
  - CHRIST takes the initiative – no one is calling Him – He is calling HIS Church! (Consider **JOHN 10:27**; 14:21, 23-24)
  - “to knock” is in the PRESENT TENSE. Christ is continually knocking on His Church.
  - “without Me you can do nothing” – John 15:5
  - “our sufficiency is in God – NOT ourselves” – 2 Corinthians 3:5; 9:8.

#### **Christ’s Promise (vv. 21-22)**

- Overcomers will **SIT** with Christ on His Throne!!!
- Overcomers will **REIGN** with Christ. (Revelation 5:10; 20:4; 22:5; 1 Cor 6:1-3)

### **HE WHO HAS AN EAR, LET HIM HEAR WHAT THE SPIRIT IS SAYING TO US**

#### **What About HIBC/IBC?**

- Will we be a loving church not like the Church at Ephesus?
- Will we be a STEADFAST church even when we face real tribulations and persecutions having the approval of God rather than man - as the Church at Smyrna?
- Will we live by the written Word of God rather than listening to traditions, culture or the teaching of men - unlike the Church at Pergamos?
- Will we be true to biblical doctrine and not accept the world’s view of right and wrong as did the Church at Thyatira?
- Will we more concern what God thinks of us rather than what the world think unlike the Church at Sardis?
- Will we be like the Church at Philadelphia obedient, steadfast and loyal?
- Will Christ feel at home and dine with us?