**THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST**

(who is and who was and who is to come)

**LESSON 4 – The Churches in Philadelphia and Laodicea**

**(Revelation 3:7-22)**

**DAYS ONE THRU THREE** **-** Read Revelation 3:7-13 (The Faithful Church)

1. a. How is Jesus Christ described in verse 7?

*Answer here*

b. What attribute of God is seen in Christ’s ability to *open and shut* whatever He wants?

*Answer here*

c. How does Isaiah 9:6-7 describe this One who will have authority over all things?

*Answer here*

2. a. As the Lord knew their *works* in this church in Philadelphia, what did He *set before* those who were faithful in Revelation 3:8a?

*Answer here*

b. Even though they only had *a little strength*, what good things had they done in Revelation 3:8b?

*Answer here*

3. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about how we *profit* by keeping God’s *word*?

*Answer here*

4. a. What does the Lord call those *who say they are Jews and are not* in Revelation 3:9? Also read Revelation 2:9b again.

*Answer here*

b. What does Romans 2:28-29 add about who is a true Jew?

*Answer here*

5. What great thing will Jesus do for all believers who *persevere* in Revelation 3:10?

*Answer here*

6. Describe this time of unprecedented difficulty for Israel from Jeremiah 30:7.

*Answer here*

7. How is this time described in Daniel 12:1?

*Answer here*

8. Read Matthew 24:4-22 about this future *hour of trial that shall come upon the whole world to test those who dwell on the earth*. What stands out to you?

*Answer here*

9. What stands out to you in 2 Thessalonians 2:3-12 about this same time?

*Answer here*

10. How will the Lord *keep* believers from *this hour of trial* in the following verses?

John 14:1-4

*Answer here*

1 Corinthians 15:51-54

*Answer here*

1 Thessalonians 4:14-18

*Answer here*

11. Since He is *coming quickly* (suddenly), what should all believers do to be ready in Revelation 3:11?

*Answer here*

12. What should a faithful church *hold fast* to according to the following verses?

1 Thessalonians 5:21

*Answer here*

2 Timothy 1:13

*Answer here*

Hebrews 10:23

*Answer here*

13. Back in Revelation 3:12, what are the overcomers promised that will make them feel eternally secure?

*Answer here*

14. **Personal Question:** How do the words of Jesus in John 10:28-29 make you feel?

*Answer here*

15. What did John say about overcomers in 1 John 5:4-5?

*Answer here*

**DAYS FOUR & FIVE** - Read Revelation 3:14-22 (The Lukewarm Church)

**EXTRA INFO:** The Laodiceans were *lukewarm* like the tepid water where they lived. They knew God’s truth but denied it. They had lulled themselves into a false sense of spiritual self-satisfaction whether from false teaching or just self-righteous hypocrisy.

1. As the messenger delivered this letter, how does Jesus Christ describe Himself?

*Answer here*

2. As Christ knew their *works*, what did He say about them in verse 15?

*Answer here*

3. a. With nothing to commend them, what sin in verse 16 is worse than being *cold*?

*Answer here*

b. What is the Lord’s strong reaction to this sin at the end of verse 16?

*Answer here*

4. What did these people not know about themselves when they thought they were *rich*, *having become wealthy and had need of nothing*?

*Answer here*

5. What was the Lord’s *counsel* to them in verse 18?

*Answer here*

6. a. How do these items mentioned in verse 18 point to genuine salvation?

1 Peter 1:7 (*gold refined in the fire*)

*Answer here*

2 Corinthians 5:2-3 (*clothed*)

*Answer here*

b. What does 2 Corinthians 4:3-4 add about those whose who cannot *see*?

*Answer here*

7. a. What does the Lord do for those He loves in Revelation 3:19a?

*Answer here*

b. *Therefore*, what did the *Laodiceans* need to do in verse 3:19b?

*Answer here*

**EXTRA INFO:** The common interpretation of Revelation 3:20 is that Christ is knocking on the door of an individual’s heart. But in this context He’s knocking on the door of this church and every other church that is blind to their true spiritual condition. These kinds of churches see no need for repentance. He doesn’t force Himself on anyone.

8. What will He do for anyone in this church who *hear*s *His voice and opens the door* in Revelation 3:20?

*Answer here*

9. What incredible promise does Jesus Christ make this time to those who overcome?

*Answer here*

10. What does 2 Timothy 2:12 add about the future for those who *endure*?

*Answer here*

**DISCUSSION:** The people at this time who went to these different churches did not have choices like we do today to go to a “better” church, unless they moved. And yet, Jesus did not tell them to leave their church. Instead He told them to *test, persevere, have patience, remember, repent, be faithful, and to hold fast to what* they had. The Lord is the One in charge of removing a *lampstand from its place*. Does this mean that we should continue to go to our imperfect churches (since none are perfect) rather than not committing to any church body?Read Hebrews 10:24-25.

*Answer here*