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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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- A. "I counsel you."
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A. Negative Consequence

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i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

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ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

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- B. You Say...
 - i. This is 1 of 2 places in Revelation in which speech is put in imputed to a people, followed by a prophetic reversal.
 - a) Rev. 18:7

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- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

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- A. "I counsel you."
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C. Christ's express love.

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A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

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i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

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A. Negative Consequence

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"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

B. “The ruler of God’s creation”

i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

ii. Is this acting?

“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

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IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

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i. Matthew 6:19

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C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

ii. To the One Who Is Victorious

a) The promise is to reign with Christ

➤ To the one who overcomes Christ will give authority to rule the nations (2:26-27).

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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
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- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

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- A. "I counsel you."
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IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
 - i. I don't know if that should comfort us because of his gentleness or concern us because if we are in need of a wakeup call, we might miss the urgency!

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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

i. Matthew 6:19

ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

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A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

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i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

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A. Negative Consequence

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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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i. Rom. 8:22-23

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

B. “The ruler of God’s creation”

i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

ii. Is this acting?

“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

 - ii. Their deeds are neither hot or cold, both of which are beneficial, but they are lukewarm which has *no benefit*.

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IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

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i. Matthew 6:19

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C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

ii. To the One Who Is Victorious

a) The promise is to reign with Christ

➤ To the one who overcomes Christ will give authority to rule the nations (2:26-27).

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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

B. “The ruler of God’s creation”

i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

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“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
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- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
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A. Negative Consequence

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 - i. I don't know if that should comfort us because of his gentleness or concern us because if we are in need of a wakeup call, we might miss the urgency!

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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

i. Matthew 6:19

ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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a) The promise is to reign with Christ

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

- A. Hope
 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
 - ii. Heb 11:1
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- A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....
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 - i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.
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III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

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III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

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- A. "I counsel you."
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B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

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A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

B. “The ruler of God’s creation”

i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

ii. Is this acting?

“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

 - ii. Their deeds are neither hot or cold, both of which are beneficial, but they are lukewarm which has *no benefit*.

- B. You Say...
 - i. This is 1 of 2 places in Revelation in which speech is put in imputed to a people, followed by a prophetic reversal.
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 - c) Speech is imputed and reversed only to wealthy Laodicea and wealthy Babylon, implying a connection.

- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
 - i. I don't know if that should comfort us because of his gentleness or concern us because if we are in need of a wakeup call, we might miss the urgency!

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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

i. Matthew 6:19

ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

ii. To the One Who Is Victorious

a) The promise is to reign with Christ

➤ To the one who overcomes Christ will give authority to rule the nations (2:26-27).

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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
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- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

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C. Christ's express love.

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A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

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ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

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A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

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i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

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II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

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 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

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A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

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The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

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 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

ii. Christ is faithful and true

B. “The ruler of God’s creation”

i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.

ii. Is this acting?

“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

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 - c) Speech is imputed and reversed only to wealthy Laodicea and wealthy Babylon, implying a connection.

- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

i. Matthew 6:19

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C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

ii. To the One Who Is Victorious

a) The promise is to reign with Christ

➤ To the one who overcomes Christ will give authority to rule the nations (2:26-27).

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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

A. Hope

i. Rom. 8:22-23

ii. Heb 11:1

B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....

i. Isaiah 65:16

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II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
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- A. "I counsel you."
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C. Christ's express love.

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A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

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"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

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Jean Calvin: "Nothing is more dangerous than to be blinded by prosperity."

B. How do the Laodiceans buy these things?

i. Matthew 6:19

ii. *The Laodiceans thought they had what they needed; Christ invites them to exchange what they have for what they truly need.*

C. Christ's express love.

V. Christ's Consequences (20-22)

A. Negative Consequence

B. Positive Consequences

i. If they but open the door, Christ will dine with them.

"As soon as we place ourselves before God, opening ourselves to Him without even looking for an answer, the transformation of our being begins. As long as we speak to *ourselves*, we become like a serpent trying to eat its own tail." (Eugraph Kovalesky)

ii. To the One Who Is Victorious

a) The promise is to reign with Christ

➤ To the one who overcomes Christ will give authority to rule the nations (2:26-27).

- Christ makes people a kingdom and priests that will reign on the earth (5:10).
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b) An important parallel: *Our victory is wrapped up in Christ’s victory!*

Faith in Christ as the Ruler of God’s creation acts in line with our longing for His kingdom because such actions bring the kingdom to bear in the lives of those around us. In so doing we overcome the world. In so doing our deeds become useful rather than useless.

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The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- What are the 3 ways mentioned that we use the word “hope”?
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Worship and Witness in a Winner-takes-all World

The Pretense of a Misplaced Hope

Jerry Cisar — November 27, 2022

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction

- A. Hope
 - i. Rom. 8:22-23
 - ii. Heb 11:1
- B. The church in Laodicea has been living a pretense.

I. Christ’s Credentials (14)

- A. Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness....
 - i. Isaiah 65:16
 - ii. Christ is faithful and true
- B. “The ruler of God’s creation”
 - i. This title comes from Rev. 1:4-6.
 - ii. Is this acting?

“The art of real make-believe, as opposed to the phony pretense of their history books with their heroic valor and pretend radio broadcasts.” It is that kind of acting that, paradoxically, becomes “more truth-telling than their real life.” (A Train to Moscow, Elena Gorokhova.)

II. Christ’s Commendation (*)

III. Christ's Critique (15-17)

- A. What is lukewarm?
 - i. *Jesus is talking about their deeds.*

 - ii. Their deeds are neither hot or cold, both of which are beneficial, but they are lukewarm which has *no benefit*.

- B. You Say...
 - i. This is 1 of 2 places in Revelation in which speech is put in imputed to a people, followed by a prophetic reversal.
 - a) Rev. 18:7

 - b) The Laodiceans may have never actually said "I am rich, I have wealth, I don't need a thing." But that is their self-perception.

 - c) Speech is imputed and reversed only to wealthy Laodicea and wealthy Babylon, implying a connection.

- C. "You are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

IV. Christ's Corrective (18-19)

- A. "I counsel you."
 - i. I don't know if that should comfort us because of his gentleness or concern us because if we are in need of a wakeup call, we might miss the urgency!

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