Sunday Session 1 Bible Study – September 14, 2014 "God Evaluates the Soul" – (Revelation 3:15, 16)

Note the "Soul's Need for Daily Bible Study" from today's bulletin insert.

Read Revelation 3:14-22.

Read Revelation 3:15 - "I know you works that neither cold you are nor hot; I wish you were either cold or hot."

Read Revelation 3:16 – "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot or cold, I am about to vomit you out of my mouth."

Laodicea was situated near two other cities; one was known for it's hot springs, which when the water was transferred by aqueduct that far was lukewarm and nauseating. The other city was known for it's cold refreshing water, but also arrived in Laodicea lukewarm.

OIDE – PfAI 1st p.s. of OIDA – Know – The perfect tense means the action occurred in the past and continues to this present moment. The Lord knows every detail and step of our lives (Job 34:21; Jeremiah 16:17; Ezekiel 11:5; Matthew 10:29, 30; Hebrews 4:13; Psalm 4:21; 47:5; Proverbs 17:3; Jeremiah 51:15; I John 3:20; Nahum 1:7; Acts 15:18). "I know you works..."

Laodicea is the word which means "rule of the people". It's interesting that for some reason this passage specifies "the church of the Laodiceans" rather than "the church at Laodicea" as specified in the other 6 churches. The Lord speaks of these individuals as being neither cold nor hot; what does this mean? The fact is that Satan will take us any way we are, and will get us any time he can get us. Hot water is therapeutic, and cold water is refreshing, but lukewarm is nauseating.

REVELATION 3:16 Notes

"lukewarm" (CLIAROS) = tepid, sluggish, dull, indifferent, lethargic

"hot" ZESTOS = glow of soul, excitement, ferver of mind, zeal, warmth

"cold" (PSUCHROS) = destitute of spiritual warmth, inert, no desire for holiness

"vomit" EMEO = spew, regurgitate (look up other synonyms); this word is used only one time in the Greek New Testament.

Apostasy and Evil, along with dishonesty and hypocrisy, immorality and greed all characterize our current day. Believers are distracted – God's Plan neglected – The Word of God ignored – Spiritual values forgotten and God's Glory is exchanged for the Ego of mankind.

Sunday Session 1 Bible Study – September 14, 2014 (Continued) "God Evaluates the Soul" – (Revelation 3:15, 16)

"I know you works that neither cold you are nor hot; I wish you were either cold or hot."

EIMI is a progressive present tense, meaning this is an ongoing situation in the church at Laodicea.

This is apostasy, and is a general situation going on in the Laodicean church. There are some there who claim salvation but have never truly accepted the Lord Jesus Christ.

"Hot" is the word ZESTOS, meaning extremely hot, and could represent the Echo Zone believer who is strong in God's Word.

"Cold" could represent either the ones who have never accepted the Lord, and could represent the ones who were have been saved, but are headed now in the wrong direction.

"...I wish you were either cold or hot."

OPHELON (AAI 1st p.s. of OPHEILO) is in a *fixed form*, meaning the Lord *strongly wishes*, with an implied lack of fulfillment or realization. This could be compared to a statement like "*I wish to gehenna that you were either hot or cold*". The implication is if they were cold enough they would realize their condition and want to accept God's solution. To the Lost – He could give them salvation; to the EZ believer, he could give them a larger spiritual meal, but to the lukewarm, He can give them neither salvation nor a larger meal because *they neither know nor care about their own condition*. This is such a tragic condition, for people back in Laodicea and for people in our day now. These are the people living out their days in great danger of dying the sin unto death.

Read Revelation 3:16 – "So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot or cold, I am about to vomit you out of my mouth."