

Wednesday Bible Study – September 24, 2014

"Self Satisfaction In The Religion of Humanism" – (Revelation 3:17)

Read [Revelation 3:17-22](#).

REVIEW FROM LAST SUNDAY:

Many of the believers at Laodicea had advanced in God's Word, and our Lord was able to bless them financially. Many had real capacity for life, but in their wealth, they began to turn their attention to their wealth and possessions, and away from our Lord and His Word. They began to become arrogant and supercilious, then continued to fall toward reversionism. They failed to *consolidate their positions*.

Consolidate Your Position

- I. These believers had been on the mountain peak of the echo-zone, but not long enough to *consolidate their position*. When the Lord poured wealth upon these believers, they couldn't cope with it. They lost track of occupation with Christ (OWC) and capacity for life (CFL).
- II. Moving from "hot" (zestos) they became "lukewarm" (chliaros). What caused the move? Discouragement, frustration, boredom, self-pity, loneliness, jealousy and bitterness. CFL means spiritual food in the soul! Say NO to truth, and REVOLT SWITCHES GET TURNED ON!
- III. When there is money without capacity, then trouble begins. Capacity is the cup. When a person turns negative to truth, the cup is removed, and there is nothing there to properly hold the wealth. Happiness is not found in material possessions.
- IV. Once someone enters a frantic search for happiness, there can be an emotional revolt of the soul. It will manifest itself in different ways, depending upon the trend of that individual's old sin nature (OSN).
- V. The emotional revolt of the soul becomes more intensified. Frustrated souls often turn to religious emotionalism, alcoholism, drug addiction, sex perversion, etc. Good things, bad things, moral things, immoral things, evil things, pleasant things, happy things – all kinds of things – were never designed to solve problems.
- VI. When a person moves to a human solution in any situation he automatically neglects, rejects or is apathetic to God's Word. This condition often starts slowly.
- VII. Deep Scars come as a result of traveling the low road of spiritual indifference. The Lord knows us as we really are.

Wednesday Bible Study – September 24, 2014 (Continued)

"Self Satisfaction In The Religion of Humanism" – (Revelation 3:17)

HUMANISM DEFINED

- A SYSTEM OF VALUES AND BELIEFS THAT IS BASED ON THE IDEA THAT PEOPLE ARE BASICALLY GOOD, THAT PROBLEMS CAN BE SOLVED USING REASON INSTEAD OF RELIGION (Christianity).
- ANY SYSTEM OR MODE OF THOUGHT OR ACTION IN WHICH HUMAN INTERESTS, VALUES, AND DIGNITY PREDOMINATE.
- AN OUTLOOK OR SYSTEM OF THOUGHT ATTACHING PRIME IMPORTANCE TO HUMAN, RATHER THAN DIVINE, SUPERNATURAL MATTERS.
- THE MEANING OF HUMANISM IS A BELIEF THAT HUMAN NEEDS AND VALUES ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, OR THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF HUMANS.

– (a Google Search)

HUMANISM

Another Google search - (Definition):

- An outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine supernatural matters. Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems.
- A system of values and beliefs that is based on the idea that people are basically good, that problems can be solved using reason instead of religion.
- Any system, or mode of thought or action, in which human interests, values, and dignity predominate.
- Humanism is a progressive life stance that, without supernaturalism, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead meaningful, ethical lives capable of adding to the greater good of humanity.
- The meaning of Humanism is a belief that human needs and values are more important than religious beliefs, or the needs and desires of humans.

Revelation 3:17 – *"Because you say, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and you do not know that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor and blind, and naked."*

Wednesday Bible Study – September 24, 2014 (Continued)

"Self Satisfaction In The Religion of Humanism" – (Revelation 3:17)

Revelation 3:17 – Exegesis:

OIDA – Perfect Active Indicative, 2nd Person Singular – Know – OUK OIDAS means "*You Do Not Know*", and the perfect tense means that this happened at a point in the past when they were not aware they were away from God's Plan. The active voice means the subject produces the action; they are the ones at fault. The indicative mood shows the reality of the fact they came to a point of being egotistical and supercilious, without knowing their own condition.

The Laodicean church says, "*We're rich*;" – Christ says, "*You're poor*."

They say, "*We have need of nothing*" – To this Jesus says, "*You are WRETCHED*"

THAT IS SELF-SATISFACTION OF RELIGIOUS HUMANISM. MEN TODAY (so many) THINK THEY'RE GOING TO RUN THEIR OWN WORLD – MATERIALISTIC AND CONTENT THAT THEY ARE!

The self-satisfied, lukewarm person thinks he is something, when he is *nothing* – note "*THOU SAYEST*", AND "*KNOWEST NOT*".

RESULTS OF HUMANISM: WRETCHED – MISERABLE – POOR – BLIND – NAKED

- I. WRETCHED – word only appears two times in New Testament – here and in [Romans 7:24](#) refers to the condition of a person who is in bondage to sin. This means "vile and sinful". Paul said, "*O wretched man that I am!*"
- II. MISERABLE = "pitiful" used also in [I Corinthians 15:19](#) – basically it means "to be pitied" and seriously in need of God's mercy.
- III. POOR = (Greek word is ptochos – beggar) the most extreme word for poverty. (*PENES* is the less extreme word for poor, meaning *enough to get by*). The Laodiceans talk BIG, but it is EMPTY talk. Their imagined state is so different from their REAL state. Their important eye slave – does not take away their spiritual blindness. The veil of ignorance and self-delusion has resulted in spiritual insanity and demon deluded minds.
- IV. BLIND = Sad not to see the true condition. REPENT when you have gone astray. Their blindness is their own fault. Some people are blind, physically, through no fault of their own; some are spiritually blind, *by choice*.
- V. NAKED = A metaphor for being guilty of un-confessed, un-repented sin. *It is so sad* when folk will not accept the *only garment* that covers spiritual nakedness – the *CLOAK OF RIGHTEOUSNESS*. We are not to stay naked before HIM! *We CAN have God's covering of sanctification and cloak of righteousness.*