

Revelation 3:14-22
“The Kind Of Church That Makes God Nauseous”

The City and the Church:

City had great wealth from its _____, _____, and _____
Felt _____

Church was _____ and _____

Christ’s Self-introduction

- The Amen – He is the _____
- Faithful and True Witness – Makes _____
- Ruler of Creation – He is the _____

What Is Going Well: Nothing

- How they were lacking? They _____
- Faith had no _____
- Could not comprehend their _____

Christ’s counsel:

- Instead of earthly affluence Jesus is saying come to me for what is _____
- Trade your designer clothes for my divine clothes of _____
- Recognize you _____
- Experience _____ with Christ

Closing Thoughts:

1. Our lives, like water, _____
2. Don’t let blessings turn _____
3. Invite Jesus to be _____

Questions For Further Reflection

1. Beware! Wealth Can Be Dangerous to Your Health

Read Revelation 3:14–17 and 1 Timothy 6:6–10. In what way does 1 Timothy 6 provide a commentary on the experience of the church at Laodicea? Is money or wealth really the problem? If not, why not, and what is? How does money or success in any human venture provide fertile ground for eventual failure?

2. Worship the Giver, Not the Gift

Read Revelation 3:17 and James 1:16–17. Who is the real source of any achievement, success or wealth you attain? In what sense is God truly the giver of all good gifts in your life, even if you worked hard for your paycheck? When you see God as the divine source, the great giver of all gifts, how does it affect your worship, thanksgiving and praise?

3. Trust the Source, Not the Supplies

Read Revelation 3:17 and 1 Timothy 6:17–18. Note the themes of pride and self-reliance. “I can take care of myself. I really don’t need you.” But whether in years of plenty or years that are lean, our trust and hope are to be fixed on God who supplies our need. How much are you trusting in your income, savings and IRA? Read Habakkuk 3:17–19. Even in tough times of economic recession, what does God call you to do?

4. Pursue Christ: His Gold, His Garments, His Vision

Read Revelation 3:18. Jesus said that since this church liked its wealth and the things that go with it, they should go after things that last, eternal things. With this in mind, read 1 Corinthians 3:10–15 and 1 Timothy 6:11–12, 18–19. If you want to be truly wealthy, rich for all eternity, what should you pursue? What should you do? Who becomes the focus of “life indeed”?

5. The Choice: Loving Discipline or Dinner for Two

Read Revelation 3:19–20. There are two options here: a warning of discipline and an invitation to share a meal together. Both are acts of love. Meditate on the heart of Jesus in both metaphors. Read Hebrews 12:5–8 and discuss how discipline of a disobedient child an act of love.