

**Welcome to Calvary Chapel
of
Northern Kentucky**



Introduction – Helpful Outline

- **1-3 – Exalted Priest-King, ministering to the churches.
(Church is not mentioned again until chapter 19.)**
- **4-5 – In heaven as the glorified Lamb of God on the throne**
- **6-18 – Judge of all the earth.**
- **19 – Conquering King of Kings**
- **20-22 – the Bride of Christ in the Millennial Kingdom and New Jerusalem**

Introduction – Helpful Outlines

Ages

- **Church Age – 1-3**
- **Tribulation Age – 4-19**
- **Kingdom Age – 20**
- **Eternal State – 21-22**

Introduction

Key Verse

Revelation 1:1

The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants--things which must shortly take place.

Introduction

The letters to the seven churches share a similar structure.

- *An address to a particular congregation.*
- *An introduction of Jesus.*
- *A statement regarding the condition of the church.*
 - *In two churches there is no commendation – Sardis and Laodicea;*
- *A verdict from Jesus regarding the condition of the church.*
 - *In two churches there is no correction – Smyrna and Philadelphia*
- *A command from Jesus to the church.*
- *A general exhortation to all Christians.*
- *A promise of reward.*

Introduction – the City of Laodicea

Important, wealthy city with a large Jewish population

Name means “rule of the people” or “justice of the people”

Center for Caesar worship and a temple / medical school dedicated to Asklepios

Fiercely self-dependent

Noted Commercial Center

- **Financial wealth**
- **Extensive textile industry**
- **World renowned eye-salve**

Poor water supply – making it vulnerable to attacks

Paul mentions unfavorably in Colossians 2:1 and 4:16

Revelation 3:14-22

**The Church of Laodicea:
Our Present Dispensation**

V14B Jesus Describes Himself

The Amen

Hebrews 1:3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

2 Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in Him are “Yes,” and in Him “Amen.”

V14B Jesus Describes Himself

The Amen

The Faithful and True Witness

Revelation 1:5 – the Faithful Witness

Rev 19:11 Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war.

V14B Jesus Describes Himself

The Amen

The Faithful and True Witness

Beginning (ruler, source) of the Creation of God

Colossians 1:15-17 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

Vv 15-16 Jesus Describes The Church – Lukewarm

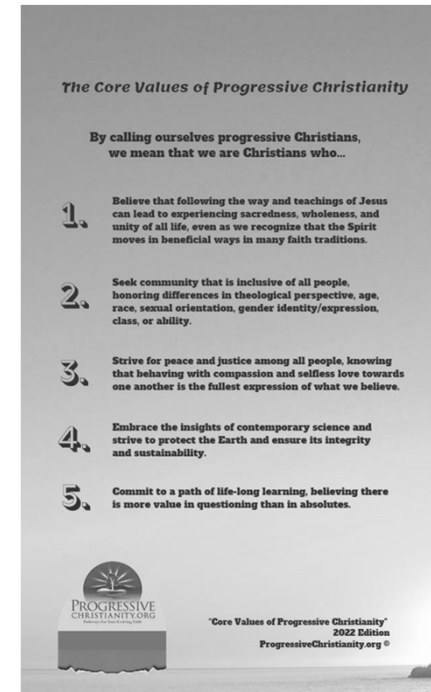
**Referred to them as the church OF the Laodiceans,
not IN Laodicea**

A picture of compromise and indifference

Vv 15-16 Jesus Describes The Church

The Core Values of Progressive Christianity – progressivechristianity.org

1. Believe that *following the way and teachings of Jesus* can lead to experiencing sacredness, wholeness, and *unity of all life*, even as we recognize that that Spirit moves in beneficial ways in faith traditions.
2. *Seek community that is inclusive of all people, honoring differences in theological perspective, age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, class, or ability*
3. *Strive for peace and justice among all people*, knowing that behaving with compassion and selfless love towards one another is fullest expression of what we believe.
4. *Embrace the insights of contemporary science* and strive to protect the Earth and ensure its integrity and sustainability.
5. Commit to a path of life-long learning, believing there is *more value in questioning than in absolutes*.



Church History

- **Ephesus** – 1st century. left their first love.
- **Smyrna** – 2nd-4th century. the persecuted church, abject poverty but rich in Christ.
- **Pergamos** – the compromised church – holds doctrines of Balaam and the Nicolaitans. Satan joins the church.
- **Thyatira** – begins the age of the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.
- **Sardis** – the Protestant Age
- **Philadelphia** – The Great Awakening

Laodicea – The Apostate church

Church History - Laodicea

Never were church leaders more satisfied with themselves and their great work than at the present time. Anything and everything is advocated that will seem to make for the church's popularity. The rights of the people alone must be considered; the rights of the Lord Jesus Christ are not even thought of. We have come to a time when, in many places, it is easier to get on without Christ than with Him; easier to carry on religious programs without the Holy Spirit than if He were working among us in mighty power.

- HA Ironside (Lectures on the Revelation – 1930)

V 17 – What Jesus Has Against this Church

Laodicea's Perspective	Jesus' Perspective
Wealthy, in need of nothing	Spiritually Wretched, miserable, poor
Maker of Renowned Eye-salve	Spiritually Blind
Fine Clothing	Spiritually Naked

Vv 18-19 - Jesus Corrects the Church

I counsel you to buy from Me:

Gold, refined in the fire

White garments, that you may be clothed

Eye salve, that you may see

Be zealous, and repent under His loving rebuke and chastening.

Vv 20-21 A Promise of Reward

Whoever hears My Voice and opens the door...

Come in to him and dine with him

“Supper (deipnon) was the main meal of the day. This was the meal at which a man sat and talked for long, for now there was time, for work was ended... it is not a mere courtesy visit, paid in the passing, which Jesus Christ offers to us. He desires to come in and to sit long with us, and to wait as long as we wish him to wait.”

(Barclay, as quoted by Guzik)

To him who overcomes – they will sit with Me on My throne.

MEDITATION VERSE

Revelation 3:21

"To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne."

BENEDICTION

Revelation 22:20-21

He who testifies to these things says,

“Surely I am coming quickly.” Amen.

*Even so, come, Lord Jesus! The grace of
the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.*