

Today's Theme

“Closing Down The Seven”

Series Title

“The Future - From Jesus”

Part 11 Nov 6, 2022

Church 1 Ephesus:

We must *know* of God's love - To love Him back!

Church 2 Smyrna:

They were *rich* - Because they knew their *future*!

Church 3 Pergamum:

Some stood *strong* - Hidden *manna* & *assurance*!
Some went the *world's* way - They listened to *evil*!

Church 4 Thyatira

They were *tolerating* evil - Gave *time* to *change*!
Stay *away* from evil - *Hold* on to Me!

Church 5 Sardis

People thought they were *alive* spiritually!
But in reality they were *dead* - Had *work* to do!

Church 6 Philadelphia

Jesus told them - They were *small* but *mighty*!
Because they *followed* & *stood* for Him!

1. Jesus takes a *look* at Laodicea.

(1) So what *about* Laodicea?

1. Founded before 253 BC.
2. 100 mi east of Ephesus & 40 from Philly.
3. Located on a plateau 200 feet high.
4. A strategic *banking* center of the area.
5. *Paid* for its own reconstruction in 60 AD.
6. Most famous for an eye salve *created*.

(2) Jesus gives this *message*.

1. Jesus is *true* & *confirms* promises.
2. Jesus is perfectly *accurate* & *reliable*.
3. Jesus & His *power* *created* everything.

2. Jesus directly shares His *concerns*.

(1) I see *everything* and this is *true* for you.

(2) This is your true spiritual *condition*.

1. Lukewarm is in a *category* by itself.
2. It's *without* value but *looks* reasonable.
3. You make Jesus *sick* to His *stomach*.

(3) Your *perception* of who-you-are is *not* right.

This is what you *think* about yourselves:

1. They placed their *security* in *money*.
2. They're *deceived* about their *condition*.

This is what your real *reality* is:

1. You are *blind* to who you really *are*.
2. You have *no* part with *me*.

3. Jesus tells them what they *need*.

(1) We need the *gold* Jesus offers.

(2) We need the *white* clothes Jesus offers.

(3) We need His *help* to see *right* spiritually.

4. Jesus makes Himself fully *available*.

(1) I will come *after* you no matter what.

Rev 3:19 Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline.
So be earnest and repent.

(2) I'm *here* - I want you - *Come* on in.

Rev 3:20 Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will
come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

(3) The one who *welcomes* Me - Will *sit* with Me.

Rev 3:21 To the one who is victorious, I will give the
right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was vic-
torious and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Rev 3:22 Whoever has ears, let them hear
what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Church 7 Laodicea

Jesus told them they were *lukewarm* & *Lost*!
They needed His *gold* - *White* clothes & To see!

Lessons We Learn From These 7 Churches

1. Churches haven't *changed* much.
2. *Culture* often rubs off on *churches*.
-And usually *not* for good.
3. Jesus wants *character* over *performance*.
4. Jesus is the *head* of the *church*.
-He's the head of the *local* church.
-He *walks* in their midst!
-He's concerned about our *direction*!
-He's concerned about our *conduct*!
5. Churches can *ignore* what Jesus *says*.
6. Churches can go their *own* way.
-And *refuse* to *listen*.