

EVENING WORSHIP

3 September 2006

Theme: Perilous Times

Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Title: In Peril of being Lukewarm

A SOLEMN WORD OF WARNING

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth"
Revelation 3:15-16

1. No escaping the penetrating eyes of the Lord

- a) Works reveal the true state of the heart
- b) Lukewarm heart unacceptable

2. Firm and unmistakable warning

"I will vomit you out of My mouth"

- a) Spat out- severe reaction
- b) Spat out- natural reaction
- c) Spat out- symbolic reaction

HOW DOES A CHURCH END UP BEING LUKEWARM?

1. The problem of wealth

"Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'"
Revelation 3:17 (Cf. Parable of the Rich Fool Luke 12:16-21)

- a) Love for wealth
- b) Self-deception

2. The problem of wrong perception of self

"And do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked"
Revelation 3:17

- a) Problem of conceit
- b) Problem of hypocrisy

REASONS FOR THIS FIRM WORD OF REBUKE

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten"

Revelation 3:19

1. Love
2. Authority
3. Hope for repentance to take place

A WAY OF ESCAPE OFFERED

"I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments that you may be clothed... and anoint your eyes with eye salve that you may see" *Revelation 3:18*

"Therefore be zealous and repent" *Revelation 3:19*

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him" *Revelation 3:20*

1. Repentance still possible
2. A second-chance still available
3. Restoration a very real hope