

The Poor-Rich Church

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Revelation 3:14-21.
- B. There was great wealth in Laodicea.
- C. Jesus calls Himself the “Amen” in this chapter underscoring the importance of the truth He is delivering.
- D. Jesus tells the church that He is faithful in delivering all the truth.
- E. The old creation and the new creation came at the hands of Jesus.

II. The church had a commitment problem and there was something wrong with their self-image.

- A. Compromise created the condition of the Laodicean’s. They were compromising doctrinally for comfort’s sake.
- B. Jesus is nauseated by a church like this.
- C. The purpose of the church is to be salt for society.
- D. The last age of the church will be characterized by the people dictating what is taught.
- E. We live in the age of compromise and drift within the church.

III. Jesus’ appeal to the church.

- A. What the church really needs is what it obtains from Jesus.
 - 1. Gold refined from the fire, which is faith in God and His Word.
 - 2. White clothes, which is the righteousness of Christ.
 - 3. Eye-salve, which opens up Bible reading.
- B. Become a Christian.
 - 1. There is a sense that a non-Christian has where Jesus is outside the life and there is emptiness because of it.
 - 2. Jesus offers Himself for deliverance.
 - 3. Jesus will enter the life.
- C. Those who follow Jesus will rule with Him. (Matthew 19)

Application questions:

1. How would you characterize the church at Laodicea? How does the modern church suffer from similar problems?

2. Which one of the gifts from Jesus for the church stands out to you? Why?

3. How does Jesus tell the church how to become a Christian? How might this passage help in sharing the good news with others?
