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| **Grant Street Baptist Church** | **Sermon Notes** |
| **Jeremy Beck** | **May 26, 2021** |

Title: *“A Calloused Heart”*

Scripture: **Revelation 3:14-22**

Message: *7 PARTS TO EACH OF THE 7 CHURCH LETTER’S*

1. Who was the letter written to/about?

 A. Church name: **Laodicea**

B. Period of church history: **1900 AD - present**

C. Church meaning: **“people ruling”**

**-The Laodicean period of church history is unconcerned for spiritual things, but are obsessed with self rule; being in charge**

**-The Laodicean period of church history is a time of much wealth in the church, but Jesus has been pushed outside as His priorities for the church are different than theirs**

**-The Revelation Jesus gave John traced the church from its early beginning as Christ desired it to be, through the persecution (Ephesus & Smyrna), to the period when the world and church merged into a time of corruption (Pergamum & Thyatira), to a period of Reformation of rebellion against this corruption (Sardis), to a period of the church becoming used to spread the gospel of Jesus once again (Philadelphia), to now the last period just before the Rapture (Laodicea).**

**-Laodicea was famous for three things: much wealth, great medical center/school, great clothing center**

2. How did John describe Jesus? **the Amen, faithful and true witness (truth comes from the Hebrew name for amen…Jesus is the truth; John 14:6 “the way, the truth, the life”), ruler of God’s creation (feet like bronze “ruler/judge”)- (vs 14)**

3. “Eyes were like blazing fire” **(vs 15) “know”…sees the inner man**

4. What was the work of the church? **(vs 15) neither cold (to grow cold, once were on fire for Jesus=dead church) nor hot (boiling point)**

 **-Jesus would rather see a church dead than lukewarm**

5. What was Jesus’ response to their work? **(vs 16) spit (vomit) them out of His mouth**

**-to vomit with extreme disgust like drinking something polluted, suddenly realizing it, vomiting it out…the only church that made Jesus sick**

6. “Obedient Hearing” **(vs 19) “whoever has ears, let them hear”…be earnest and repent, hear my voice, open the door**

7. What is the promise(s) to those who hear with the intent to obey? **(vs’ 20-21) have fellowship with God, rule and reign with Him (during millennial 1,000 yr reign)**

**Revelation 3:14-22** 14“To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation. 15I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! 16So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17You say, ‘I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.’ **(the church was filled with pride interested in material things, they had money and wanted big buildings, best staffs of ministers, biggest programs)** But you do not realize **(they were ignorant, not even realizing what they were missing)** that you are wretched **(old adjective meaning calloused, so calloused they were no longer affected by spiritual things)**, pitiful **(sad miserable shape)**, poor **(a begger)**, blind **(ignorant)** and naked **(He saw the evil inside their hearts)**. 18I counsel you to buy from me **(true riches only come from God, Matthew 6:19-20 “treasures in Heaven”)** gold refined in the fire **(been put to the test, and survived)**, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear **(righteousness and holiness)**, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see **(When Jesus opens our eyes, we see things as He does)**. 19Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline **(God’s love is always the motive for His chastising)**. So be earnest and repent **(return to your boiling point, be on fire for Jesus…no other solution)**. 20Here I am! I stand at the door and knock **(Jesus has been shut out of the heart because of the self rule, self satisfaction, self sufficiency…He stands patiently (so far for 121 yrs) outside the door of our hearts trying to get in)**. If anyone **(invitation is extended to anyone within the church, God knows the whole church will not be earnest and repent, but He’s holding out for the remnant)** hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. 21To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. 22Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Application:

* A Calloused Heart
* **Matthew 13:15 (Isaiah 6:9-10)** “For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.’…”Obedient Hearing”
* **Colossians 3:17** is the heart of Jesus for the church, is it your heart for the way you live your life?
* Is your heart so calloused you don’t even realize how blind, how ignorant you have become?