

# Some Things God Wants from the Last Church

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[0:00] Mute it. There you go. How's that? Better? All right, we're on. So if you got one of these right there, I just ask you to check one of them boxes off to the side.

One of them boxes right there. This is like a temperature gauge, right? And how many are familiar with the passage I just told you to go to in Revelation chapter 3, right? Okay, so everybody should be familiar with this passage. If you're not familiar with this passage, I recommend you get real familiar with this passage.

But I just want you to check off one of these boxes. This is the temperature you are. All right? And if you're familiar with the passage, you know what I'm talking about. Don't let anybody see it. You know, just kind of do it like that. Check one off and then just hide it.

And then on the back, it's blank. Okay, I'm going to give you some things this morning that you can, you know, I would recommend you take some notes for your own sake. And there's some things you can look at later. I'm going to be moving real fast because I don't have a lot of time this morning.

But I just want to give you the material. Revelation chapter 3, I want to start in verse 14. And it says, Unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, These things say the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God.

[1:09] He says, I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would, thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.

Okay, so God doesn't like the lukewarm idea, right? So, I don't know what you checked off in your box, but if you checked off that middle box, God's talking to you today.

God's talking to you today. Now, you may have checked off the bottom box, because you, you know, you're looking at it as, I am just frozen.

Okay, I mean, maybe, maybe that is, but I'm just going to tell you this. He says, he says, so then in verse 16, so then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth.

Okay, so that's what he said, you are, right? That's what he said. He said, because, and then he goes on. He goes on. He is talking to the church that is lukewarm today.

[2:18] So, what I'm going to say is, I know this is Sunday school. How many people came ready to go to Sunday school? Anybody? All right. That's good. That's good, crowd. You're ready. You're ready for school. That's what we're doing right now.

I mean, it's going to sound a little bit more like preaching probably, but, look, I want to give you this morning some things I see in the passage that God wants from the last church.

Okay? I want to, I'm going to give you some things this morning that I see in the passage that God wants from the lukewarm church. Yeah? So, nobody saw how you check the box, but hopefully you, you check the box, and then you can write some of these points down on the back.

As a Christian, as a Christian, it ought to be all about God, right? Right? Brother Justin touched on that on Wednesday night. He mentioned that verse, I think, in Revelation chapter 4, verse 11, where, thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power, for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are, and were created.

That's why we're created, is for his pleasure, right? Of course, that's not exciting, is it? Because we like it to be all about us. We want it to be all about our pleasure, right?

[3:36] Yeah. All right. Okay. Look, it's all about his pleasure. If you don't understand that, you don't understand being a Christian, right?

We are his creation. He's not ours. That's a Romans chapter 1 problem. Okay? If you're not familiar with that, Romans chapter 1, verse 20 through 23, you can write that down, and look at that when you get a chance.

So, I'm sure that you hear this passage, I'm sure you hear this passage taught on, at least once a month. No. Now, I understand. I understand that there's a lot more, to teach and preach on.

But this passage, is so important, for the time, that we're in right now. So, I recommend that, if you're not familiar, with this passage, when I'm done today, you go home tonight, you read that passage.

And, and if it doesn't do anything for you, and you really, you know, it's not, it's not doing anything, tomorrow, read it again. Amen. Read it again.

[4:45] Amen. Because, this is the passage, for those that are lukewarm. This is it. Now, the trick will be, you know, I recommend you, you take these points, that I give you this morning, you take the passage, just Revelation chapter 3, and you put it on a sign, or something, and you put it up, on your refrigerator, you put it in front of you, to where you see it every day.

But, but the trick's going to be, or the subtlety's going to be, I'm going to use the right word, is going to be, not to be too familiar with it. How do you get, to where you're not too familiar, with this passage?

How do you get, to where you're not calloused, about this passage? That's what you need, to figure out. All right, this passage tells us, I saw three things, this passage tells us.

It tells us, what God knows about you, even some things, you don't know about you, it tells you, it tells you, what God wants from you, and it tells you, what he wants to do for you. Okay, those are the three things, that I see in the past, and you know, when I say, I'm going to give you, all these things this morning, whatever, in no means, am I going to give you everything.

Right? These are some things, I see in the passage, and I've seen, lots of things, in this passage, in the last 30 years. So, I'm just going to give you, some things, that stuck out to me recently.

[6:07] They ought to be, really appealing, to a Christian. The more spiritual you lean, the more appealing, this is going to be. The less, spiritual you are, and the less spiritual you lean, the less appealing, this is going to be.

Okay? So, by the time we're done, and you look at those points, and you go, didn't do anything for me. Ding, ding, ding, ding, ding, ding, you might ought to recheck the boxes. I don't know. I don't know.

I don't see what you're checking, so I don't want to see. So, I want to give you, I want to give you some things, that I see in the passage, that God wants from you.

That God wants from this, lukewarm church. That's what he's talking about. He said, my buddy said, he said, but because you're not cold or hot, he's talking to those, that are not cold or hot.

So, if you are cold or hot, you know, you're just on fire this morning, or you're just not freezing cold. You know, some people like their milk really cold. I'm just not into any of it.

[7:09] I'm not into really cold, I'm not into really hot. But some people, they got to have it really cold. The coffee, right? You're one of those, right? You got that coffee really hot. Okay? So, you maybe understand, how that really cold, really hot thing works.

But God says, he says, you're neither cold nor hot. So, because you're lukewarm, and then he goes on the passage, the passage is written to those that are not really cold, and they're not really hot.

You say, you say, what does it mean? What does that cold and hot thing mean? You know, I've heard it before, said that the cold is bad, and the hot is good. But, but because of what God says in the passage, I don't know.

Cold may be good, and hot may be good, right? Some things are good cold. Some things are good hot. But, but the point is, God says, the point is not, you're being hot or cold right now.

The point is, you're lukewarm, and that's your problem, right? That's right. That's what the problem is. So, whether hot is good, and cold is bad, I don't make a stand right there.

[8:18] I make a stand on the fact that he's talking to the lukewarm church, and saying there's some things I want you to do. That's what I'm talking about. And, you know, to me, it's completely reasonable.

It's completely reasonable. Him being the creator is completely reasonable. For him to ask me some things, you know, think about it. We've sinned. We fell. Christ died on the cross for our sins. Christ blesses us continually, right? He's worthy of our cooperation. He's worthy of our service. If you haven't thought of it lately, he deserves your devoted attention.

How does that word work, you know? It's undevoted, right? How should I have said that? He deserves your... Undevoted doesn't sound, right to me. You know, maybe I'm just getting old. Un? No, no, no. I want the real thing. Devoted all. He deserves you being devoted to him. Revelation chapter 3. So the first thing, and I got to really move.

[9:21] I'm not going to tell you how many I have, but Revelation chapter 3 there, and look at verse 15. So you see one thing he says he wants from you.

In verse 15, he says, I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. I would, you were cold or hot. So one thing, the first thing we see that God wants from you, is he wants you to be cold or hot. Now, many of you probably read these passages many times. What did you do? What did you do about it? God wants you cold or hot. Okay?

So today, figure that out and decide that. You're going to be cold or hot. I mean, this is clear. These are some things God wants from the last church. God wants you to be cold or hot.

But he says, so then because thou art neither cold nor hot, he says, I will spew thee out of my mouth. Now, this concept is not, it's not, um, uh, new in the Bible, right?

[10:23] In the Old Testament, they spewed out. God told him, he said, he said, he said to the children of Israel, he said, uh, the land will spew you out too. If you don't behave, you don't behave right.

Okay. It'll spew you out like it did. The people before you. Right? So this, this, this concept of spewing you out is not, is not a foreign concept in the Bible.

So God says, because you're neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth. I don't know.

You know, I don't know where we are as this Bible believing church.

I don't know where we are with, um, with this spewing out idea. It's scary. It's scary.

You know, Bible talks about him writing, him talking about the word Ichabod, you know, Ichabod, the Lord had departed. I don't know.

[11:22] I hope that's not the way it is here. But I'll tell you one thing. If you think, if you think we, we're not participating in the lukewarm church, you're highly mistaken.

the position of the last church, you know, book of revelation here, and just a little something off the side for, for you that, uh, uh, maybe not too familiar with the book of revelation.

The book of revelation is a prophecy book. Okay. And God put this passage in concerning us. 2000 years ago. He did this 2000 years ago in preparation for us today.

He already knew. He already knew book revelation being a prophetic book. It's also a progressive prophetic book, uh, that might help you in putting different things in their proper place.

Okay. Remember what I said, progressive prophetic. You look at it in that way. You'll see some things that you may not have saw before when you're studying the book of revelation. Um, also something I, I don't want to steal from brother Pilkington when he comes in town, but, but, you know, between 90 AD when John wrote and, uh, and the Daniel 70th week when the tribulation starts, it's all in the local church.

[12:53] Huh? So these people that don't think they need a local church today, I'm sorry, in the, in the prophetic book that God gave us for the end, that's all there is.

That's all there is in this time period. That's all I'm going to say in case brother Pilkington preaches his message. I don't want to steal from it, any of it, but that was good. I thought it was really good.

All right. So we're talking about the last church and the last church is basically bankrupt. It's bankrupt.

How are you this morning? How are we? How are we this morning? Some things God wants from the last church. And one of the things he wants is he wants it to be cold or hot.

He does not want it to be lukewarm. So if we are lukewarm this morning, we need to stop it. How do we do that?

[13:52] How do we do that? Do we care? Some things God wants from the last church. So verse, we looked at verse 15 there. He wants you to be cold or hot, but because they're not, he's going to, he's going to spew them out of the mouth.

He tells them in verse 17, because thou sayest, I am rich and increased with goods and have need of nothing. And no, it's not that, that thou are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.

Wow. That's, that's pretty upsetting. I think I don't want that said about me.

I think, but God knows. Okay. So he goes on, he tells you what you are. All right. And then he starts giving a bunch more stuff on what he wants from the last church.

Verse 18, we'll have three of them in there. And it says, I counsel thee. So in the light of this, that he's talking to the lukewarm people, he's not talking to the hot people. He's not talking to the cold people.

[14:56] He's talking to the lukewarm crowd. And he says, he says in the light of you knowing this and the fact of these problems that you're having, I counsel thee to buy of me gold, tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear.

And anoint thine eyes with eyesalve that thou mayest see. So he gave you three things right there. And I know that you, you buy, you know, so here's some things that you purchase at the spiritual warehouse in heaven.

All right. One of them is gold. Notice he says, tried in the fire. Okay. This is gold. That's going to make it up at the judgment. You get it? Right.

First Corinthians chapter three talks about the judgment of Christ. And it talks about how you, you got gold, silver, precious stones. And it talks about wood, hay and stubble. All right.

Well, you already know that because it says it's tried by fire. We already know the wood, hay, stubble ain't going. We got that figured out. We know what that kind of stuff is. We burn that stuff. We've seen it burn. We know it burns. Maybe not too familiar with the gold idea.

[16:07] And the silver and the precious stones. I'm not familiar with it. I've never put it through to test a fire. I mean, if I got gold, I'm not taking any chances with it or anything. I'm not going to try to burn it to give you an example.

I mean, I only got a little bit, right? Right. I mean, silver, you know, I got some, maybe a couple of silver coins. I'm not taking the chance, but he says, he's already told you it's gold already trying to fire.

It's gold trying to fire. So, you know, when you get up at the judgment, you go through the fire, you get, you got that kind of gold. You're cashing in. Yes. God wants you to have that kind of gold.

So he said, he said, I'm counting on you to buy it of me. I got it. You can't out buy my gold. There's not going to be any shortage on the gold.

So you want to figure out what that is. Right. Because it's gold already tried in the fire. And he says, white raiment.

[17:09] He said, I said, buy. Okay. So you're purchasing. You know about buying, right? Right. Amazon wouldn't be so big if we didn't know about buying. We know how to buy.

Right. You get your paycheck. You get your next paycheck. You get your next paycheck. You get your next paycheck. And the bank reads zero. We know how to buy. So you buy in.

Gold tried in the fire. You're buying clothing. You're buying clothing so that you're not naked. Do you want to be naked up there?

Oh, you're going to do this. Of course. Who wants? I don't want to be naked anywhere. Right.

You're going to do this. But, but really, down in your heart, do you mean this? Maybe.

You need to, you need to think about that. The last thing you want is to be a, schizophrenic. A schizophrenic Christian. Right.

[18:07] That's the one that says, I don't want to be naked, but really you do. Okay. Gold tried in the fire. White raiment. That, um, the, the, your, your nakedness doesn't appear.

You don't want that. He says, and anoint your eyes with eye salves, that thou mayest see. Now, I don't know if the, he didn't necessarily say by the eye salves. So, I don't know. You may already have this. Um, I, I, I thought about the eye salves much, and I think it's mentioned once in the Bible. So, you don't really get a hold on. It's not like you could do your long Bible study on eye salves. Good luck. But I think eye salves, it's definitely something that affects your eyes. And it's definitely something that affects your eyes for good.

Right? So, being that God said it, and being that, uh, it's eye salves, and he's talking about spiritual things, it must have something, connection with him. Make, make sense?

So, I thought of two things. I thought, I thought physically, your tears. You know, the Bible talks about, uh, he that goeth forth and weepeth.

[19:10] Bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. It affects you. Those tears. You know, these, these people that talk about, you know, I was kind of like that. You know, men don't cry.

We don't cry. You know, you get really hurt. You don't cry. You get emotional. You don't cry. That's that. That doesn't work. That's not good. That's not spiritual. That's not Christian. You do well to do a good cry out.

You do well to get somewhere, you know, you do well. And I don't do it here. Maybe it's, maybe it's wrong, but man, I think of some of them songs that we sing and it's just, man, I just want to find a closet somewhere.

I mean, I just think it wouldn't be manly if I started crying in my pew, weeping like a baby, but it might be good. But I saw it.

And then I thought of the other. Another thing is the word of God, the word of God. As you read the word of God, anointing your eyes with the eye salve of the word of God. So God talks about some things.

[20:12] He wants you to do. He wants you to buy some stuff. He wants you to anoint your eyes with eye salves that you may see. All right. And then he says in verse 19, he says, as many as I love, I rebuke and chasten, be zealous therefore and repent.

And you know, so he's just, I don't know. I look at it that and I see in the middle of nowhere, he goes, Hey, by the way, as many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Thought about that verse in Hebrews.

I think it's chapter 12, where it talks about no chastening at the, at the present time is joyous, but grievous. And, you know, but he says, you, you know, if you don't receive them, you're like bastards and not sons.

That's what he said. So, you know, no chastening for the present time is enjoyable, but we need to have it. He says, he says, if I love you, I'm going to rebuke you.

And if I love you, I'm going to chasten you. How is it that you react to that? That's what you want to ask yourself. That's what, how is it? How do you respond to that?

[21:17] But he says, he says, as many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. So, the fifth thing is, he says, be zealous, be zealous. So, here's a question I got for you, is, are you zealous about anything?

You know, some people, they're just blobs. You know what I'm talking about? They're just blobs. There's just no, there's just no real expression coming one way or the other. You really can't get in the move.

You just can't get a reaction at them. They're just kind of like blobs. There's no, hey, there's no, you know, right? They're just, they're just, this is what they are.

He says, he says, he says, he wants you to be zealous. You know, I thought about the passage where Jesus Christ went into the temple. You familiar with it?

He whipped out the people in there. He turned over the table to the money changers. Right? And his disciples saw that, and they thought, they thought, you know what, they remembered a verse, and they went, the zeal of thine house has eaten you up.

[22:22] Man, that's what came to their mind when they saw that. So, my question to you is, is, got anything like that? Got anything, I got anything like that in your life?

I'm not talking about, at the Packers game, you paint yourself half green and half, what's the other color? I don't even know. Half the other color, and it's, it's 20 degrees out.

And you're, you're naked, you got, I mean, you got no shirt on, and you, I'm not talking about that kind of zeal. I'm not talking about that. I'm not talking about, you yell at your kid's soccer game. I used to get real excited. At my kid's soccer game, at the track, because it was just fun to watch. But, you got anything, you got anything, where, if the disciples were looking on, they would go, man, that reminded me of the verse, the zeal of thine house had eaten me up.

God's talking to the lukewarm church, so he already knows. He already knows, not, probably not a whole lot of that going on, but, there ought to be, there ought to be.

[23:31] You know, you read missionary books, and if you don't, you need to. You, you don't know some good names, ask me. I'll tell you them. I'll tell you them. I'll lend you some books. Some, some guys that did exploits that, you read, and you go, man, I don't even, I, I don't even see how that could be possible.

But they did some amazing things, and they, and they gave their lives for Christ, and they went out there, and they did, they did the unthinkable. The next one, he says, be zealous therefore, and repent.

You know what repent means? Repent is a change. Repent is a turning from, a turning to. It's a change. It's a bad, bad word. That's a bad word. Change.

Don't say that. Don't say too much of that. Who wants to change? Anybody? Come on, really? Really? Really? Yeah, I know. We say that. Yeah, I want to say that too.

But take a look at your life, for the last month, the last year, the last 10. God knows the last church.

[24:43] He's talking to the lukewarm people, and he says, you need to be zealous therefore, and repent. So God's trying, what God wants from this last church, is he wants us to be cold or hot.

That's what he wants. He doesn't want us to be lukewarm. Next one, verse 20.

He says, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come into him, and sup with him, and he with me. So he stands at the door and knocks.

So God wants, God wants you to answer this door. I don't know about you, in my world, in my world, knocking at the door requires an answer.

I know some things you can't say, like you used to. Because, you know, how many have done personal work, where you've knocked on doors, you're going around and knock on doors, inviting people out to church, and giving tracts, and witnessing people at the door.

[25:51] So you do that, and you knock at the door, and sometimes you hear, Go away! Right? Or how about, Who is it? I used to go, Who is it? Richard.

I mean, what do you say? So I tell him, I tell him, I tell him, Richard from the church. I don't know. I want him to know what I'm doing out there. You know, Not interested.

I already go to church. You know, All of those, and I'm half deaf, so I didn't hear most of them anyway. So I didn't get offended. The guy next to me would go, Yeah, I didn't want to, Okay. I'm not having a hard enough time hearing you, right here.

That's why I do it. But he says, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. The problem here is, God is on the outside, and you're on the inside.

That's what the problem is here. God wants to come in. Right? He doesn't want to be on the other side of that door. But for the lukewarm, He's trying to tell you, That that's where I'm at.

[26:57] I'm knocking. Right? He said, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If any man, Hear my voice.

So he's not only knocking, What else is he doing? He's going, Hey, Anybody there? Hey! Obviously, You're not answering my knock.

First, First mention, A voice in the Bible. The voice of God. Anybody know? Genesis chapter 3. The voice in the garden. Calling, Hey, Hey, Abraham, Where art thou?

Now, That's a little situation like this. Kind of made full circle. He says, Behold, I stand at the door and knock.

If any man hear my voice and open the door, God wants the door open. I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me. He doesn't only want you to open the door.

[28:04] He wants you to hear his voice. Right? You want to write that down. He wants you to hear his voice. He wants you to answer the door. He wants you to open the door. And he wants you to let him in. This isn't a conversation where you're going to have at the door.

Where you open the door and say, Yes, Can I help you? Yes, Lord, Can I help you? Well, I'd like to come in and sup. Not right now.

How about you come back later? Maybe tomorrow about, Well, It actually takes me about a week to clean up. How about next week sometime? Right? Right? So you got this part. You got that.

Hey, Anybody there? You answer the door. Can I help you? You don't get the chain on. Open about that much. He says, I want to come in. I'd like to come in.

That be right. Would it be right with you if he came in this morning? I don't know. I'm going to tell you this. You better judge what you do in your life by the word of God.

[29:04] Because if you got some ideas about God's okay with this and God's okay with that outside of that, You're going to be in for a big surprise when he comes in.

I mean, You know, Whores for Jesus. I mean, Come on. Those kind of things aren't going to work. He's not interested in coming into that. But they actually think they're doing God a service.

Prostitutes for Jesus. You never heard of it? Google it. Google the testimonies. They think they're doing a God service. So, You know, I'm just going to, I'm just going to throw it out there.

You know, The Lukewarm Church, Bobby got some crazy ideas too. Amen. God wants you to hear his voice.

He wants you to open the door. He wants you to let him in. God wants to come in and suffer with you. You know, Zacchaeus, You know the story of Zacchaeus.

[30:09] Was it a wee little man? A wee little man was he, Right? Everybody learned that in Sunday school? Or you heard about Zacchaeus down the road somewhere where he, Jesus came to his house for supper. Got in on it.

That's what we need. We need Jesus to come in. And we need to let him in. He wants to come in. And he wants to fellowship. He doesn't only want to, You to come to the door.

And check it out. He wants to come in. And fellowship. In your, Whatever's on the other side of that door. Obviously, It'll be hard.

Okay. It's up with him and he with me. Verse 21. To him that overcometh. Overcometh. Will I grant to sit with me in my throne. So something else God wants you from you.

Is he wants you to be an overcomer. He wants you to be an overcomer. I understand. You're going to get to heaven because you're saved. If you're saved here this morning, You're going to get to heaven.

[31:10] If you're not saved here this morning, Get saved today. If you don't know what I'm talking about, Come see me after. I'd be glad to talk to you about it. Okay. You're not going to heaven without being saved. Okay. And if you're not saved, You went like this.

You went, What? Find out. Find out. Go, Hey, What are you talking about? I don't believe that. Go ahead. Let me, Let me take you through it. Let me take you through it from the word of God. But he, He wants you to be an overcomer.

Are you an overcomer? Yeah. I understand you're going to be in heaven because you're saved and you're separated from your body and the spirit and you have a home. And I understand all that. But are you overcoming right now?

Are you overcoming the world, the flesh and the devil? He wants you to be an overcomer. To him that overcome it. He's talking to the lukewarm. And to be an overcomer, being lukewarm, you got to get out of that.

You got to get out of that. That's what he's talking about. Overcoming. Even as I also overcame and I'm set down with my father in his throne.

[32:17] Okay. Verse 22. Something else here. He says, He that hath an ear, let him hear. God wants you to hear. And he doesn't only want you to hear what I'm saying this morning.

He wants you to hear what the spirit is saying to the churches. There's a big difference between you hearing him and you hearing me.

Okay. And I recommend that you take that little piece of paper that you checked off and just stick it somewhere. Maybe look at it in a week and go, did I do anything about that? And if you didn't. And maybe you're not hearing what the spirit is saying to the churches. Some things God wants from the last church.

And there's a lot of them in there. And I gave you 11 of them. If you didn't get all 11, there was, I went through 11 of them. There you go.

[33:29] So let's pray. Father, thank you. Thank you. For having a message to the last church. We're definitely, no doubt in time, we are the last church. Are we these people you're talking about?

I would guess yes. Help us to look at these things that you want from the church. And help us to participate in that.

Maybe we could check a different box. Amen. All right. Take a break.