

**EQUIPPING THE SAINTS**  
**20/20 Vision in 2020**  
**LESSON STUDY: *Simplicity of the Gospel***  
**September 19, 2020**

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**DO YOU SEE WHAT I SEE?**  
**The Gospel Simplified: Jesus In, Satan Out**  
**SCRIPTURE: EZE. 7:2,6; JER. 8:20**

<sup>2</sup> Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land. <sup>6</sup> An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come. Eze. 7:2,6  
<sup>20</sup> The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. Jer 8:20

**The end is near, why are we still resisting the voice of God? Without Christ we cannot recognize our need. We have deceived ourselves.**

**The Laodicean Message is from Jesus.**

1. Rev. 3:14-22: "And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; <sup>15</sup> I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. <sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. <sup>21</sup> To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne <sup>22</sup> He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

**Can anyone find anything wrong with the message?**

"Halfhearted Christians are worse than infidels; for their deceptive words and noncommittal position lead many astray. The infidel shows his colors. The lukewarm Christian deceives both parties. He is neither a good worldling nor a good Christian. Satan uses him to do a work that no one else can do." 7BC 963.

"There are those who, though professedly serving God, are witnessing against Him. To them the message to the Laodicean church is given. Christ says to them, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot." When the avenging angel shall pass through the land, Christ cannot say of them, "Touch them not. I have graven them upon the palms of my hands." No; of these halfhearted ones He says, "I will spew them out of my mouth. They are offensive to me." 7BC 963.

2. Eze. 7:1-3,5-7: "Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, <sup>2</sup> Also, thou son of man, thus saith the Lord GOD unto the land of Israel; An end, the end is come upon the four corners of the land. <sup>3</sup> Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations. <sup>5</sup> Thus saith the Lord God; An evil, an only evil, behold, is come. <sup>6</sup> An end is come, the end is come: it watcheth for thee; behold, it is come. <sup>7</sup> The morning is come unto thee, O thou that dwellest in the land: the time is come, the day of trouble is near...."

## **Our only hope is to receive the righteousness of Christ through justification by faith.**

“It presented justification through faith in the Surety; it invited the people to receive the righteousness of Christ, which is made manifest in obedience to all the commandments of God. Many had lost sight of Jesus. They needed to have their eyes directed to His divine person, His merits, and His changeless love for the human family.” TM 92.

“This is the message that God commanded to be given to the world. It is the third angel’s message, which is to be proclaimed with a loud voice, and attended with the outpouring of His Spirit in a large measure.” TM 92.

## **What is Satan attempting to do, that so many people lose sight of Jesus?**

“Now, it has been Satan’s determined purpose to eclipse the view of Jesus and lead men to look to man, and trust to man, and be educated to expect help from man. For years the church has been looking to man and expecting much from man, but not looking to Jesus, in whom our hopes of eternal life are centered.” TM 93.

3. Psalms 118:8-9: “It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.<sup>9</sup> It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.”

## **Jesus knows our condition. Laodicea, do you see what I see?**

4. Rev. 3:20 Jesus in, Satan Out. “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

- A. “In one way only can a true knowledge of self be obtained. We must behold Christ. It is ignorance of Him that makes men so uplifted in their own righteousness. When we contemplate His purity and excellence, we shall see our own weakness and poverty and defects as they really are. We shall see ourselves lost and hopeless, clad in garments of self-righteousness, like every other sinner. We shall see that if we are ever saved, it will not be through our own goodness, but through God’s infinite grace.” COL 159.

Rom. 5:20: “Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:”

- B. “No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of self. But no man can empty himself of self. We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, unchristlike self. Mold me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my soul.” COL 159.
- C. “It is not only at the beginning of the Christian life that this renunciation of self is to be made. At every advance step heavenward it is to be renewed. **All our good works are dependent on a power outside of ourselves.** Therefore there needs to be a continual reaching out of the heart after God, a continual, earnest, heartbreaking confession of sin and humbling of the soul before Him. Only by constant renunciation of self and dependence on Christ can we walk safely.” COL 159.
5. Gal. 2:20: “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”
6. 1 Cor. 15:31: “I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.”
- D. “The nearer we come to Jesus and the more clearly we discern the purity of His character, the more clearly we shall discern the exceeding sinfulness of sin and the less we shall feel like exalting ourselves. Those whom heaven recognizes as holy ones are the last to parade their own goodness.” COL 160.

- E. "Men who have lived nearest to God, men who would sacrifice life itself rather than knowingly commit a wrong act, men whom God had honored with divine light and power, have confessed the sinfulness of their own nature. They have put no confidence in the flesh, have claimed no righteousness of their own, but have trusted wholly in the righteousness of Christ. So will it be with all who behold Christ. At every advance step in Christian experience our repentance will deepen." COL 160.

**When Isaiah saw the King in his glory, how did he respond?**

7. Isa 6:1-5: "In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the LORD sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. <sup>3</sup>And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. <sup>4</sup>And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."

**Do you want to see the king, the Lord of Host? His invitation is still good today.**

8. Matt. 11:28-30: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.<sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."