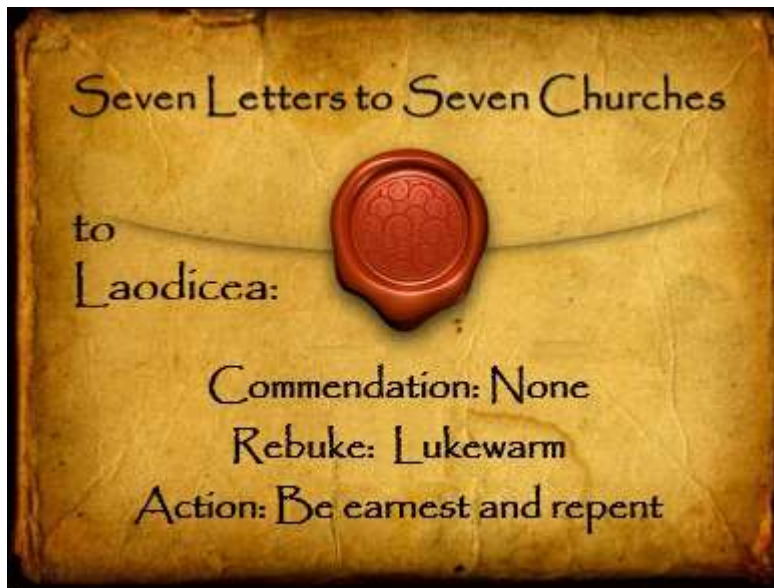


CCCN Bible Study End Times Notes – Pastor John Stackhouse

Revelation 3 – Letter to the church in Laodicea

3:14 – Commentary notes that Laodicea was about forty-five miles southeast of Philadelphia and about one hundred miles east of Ephesus. Along with Colosse and Hierapolis, it was one of the cities in the fertile Lyous valley. The great Roman road stretching to the inland of Asia from the coast at Ephesus ran straight through its center, making Laodicea an important center of trade and communication. In addition, its wealth came from the production of a fine quality of famous glossy black wool—whether dyed or natural in color is not known. That the city’s banking assets were noteworthy is evidenced by the fact that Cicero cashed huge bank drafts in Laodicea. The city was so wealthy that after being destroyed by the great earthquake of A.D. 17, the people refused imperial help in rebuilding the city, choosing rather to do it entirely by themselves. As for the church in Laodicea, it may have been founded by Epaphras (Col 4:12-13).



3:15 – the strong warning to Laodicea is, *“I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”*

3:19 – They are told to “be earnest and repent”.

3:20 – Jesus also gives them an important invitation: *“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me”*. What a wonderful invitation that everyone should accept.