

Sermon Guide - Sunday, August 30, 2026

Current Series: The Revelation

The Antichrist. Armageddon. The Beast. 666. For centuries, the book of Revelation has fascinated, frightened, and confused Christians, but what if we've been so focused on decoding its mysteries that we've missed its main message? *The Revelation* is a 3-month journey through the Bible's final book, exploring its controversial prophecies, warnings to the Church, and breathtaking vision of the future. Along the way, we'll separate Scripture from speculation and discover that Revelation wasn't written just to make us afraid of what's coming. It was written to reveal **Jesus Christ** - the King who reigns over all other powers, the Lamb who conquers evil, and the Savior who promises that pain, death, and darkness won't have the last word. **The future belongs to Jesus, and that should change how we live right now.**

Today's Message: Part 3 - Lukewarm?

If there was somehow a hypothetical "thermometer" on your faith, with "0" being *ice cold/no faith* and "100" being *Houston-in-August, on-fire faith*, what would your faith thermometer read today? Why do you say that?

Revelation 1:19 - "Write, therefore, what you have seen, *what is now* and *what will take place later...*"

Revelation 3:14 - "To the angel of the church in Laodicea..."

What do we know about first-century Laodicea?

Why might the letter to Laodicea be especially relevant to a church like ours in inner-loop Houston today?

Revelation 3:14-16 - 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. 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 WAYS COMFORT CAN BE DANGEROUS

1. BY MAKING YOUR _____

How does comfort sometimes turn our faith into an "elective course" or a "healthy supplement" instead of a non-negotiable, essential foundation of our lives? How have you seen this happen in your life and/or the lives of others?

Revelation 3:17 - *You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing..."*

Why is "I don't need a thing" such a dangerous thing for a Christian to say? How did Jesus respond to this sentiment from the believers in Laodicea? (See the rest of v. 17)

Lk. 12:15-21 - Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." He told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you've prepared for yourself?' This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

How are Jesus' warnings in this parable similar to his warning to the Laodiceans?

3 WAYS COMFORT CAN BE DANGEROUS

2. BY MAKING YOU _____

Revelation 3:17 - *"But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."*

What's wrong with feeling good about yourself and thinking of yourself as "a good person"?

Mark 10:18 - "No one is good - except God alone."

Psalms 16:2 - I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; apart from you I have no good thing."

Why is it so important for Christians to remember that, outside of Jesus, there's no such thing as a "good person"?

3 WAYS COMFORT CAN BE DANGEROUS

3. BY MAKING YOU _____

Revelation 3:18 - *I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.*

Instead of just rebuking the Laodiceans for their wealth, what did Jesus offer them? What does it actually mean to get things like "gold," "clothes," and "salve" from him, instead of the world?

Deuteronomy 8:11-14 - *Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God... Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, then your heart will become proud and you will forget the Lord your God.*

Why did Moses warn the Israelites about forgetting God *after they receive His earthly blessings*?

How is this a warning for us today? Has God ever blessed you so much that you forgot how desperately you need Him?

3 WAYS TO OVERCOME THE DANGERS OF COMFORT

1. LET JESUS _____

Rev. 3:19 - *"Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent."*

How have you experienced the discipline or rebuke of the Lord? How did you respond?

2. TAKE JESUS _____

Rev. 3:20 - *"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock..."*

Do you struggle to trust that Jesus is still standing at your heart's door, even after all you've done? Why or why not?

3. INVITE JESUS _____

Rev. 3:20 - *"...If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me."*

What's significant about Jesus' offer to come in and eat with us?

In the past or the present, have you kept Jesus at a comfortable distance, instead of letting him join you at your table? What kept you from letting him in?

What about your life would change if you decided to fully invite Jesus in today?

Your Notes: