

Straight To The



What Does The Bible Say?

Fence-Straddling Preachers Make God Sick

"I will spew thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

The seven letters in Revelation were written to seven pastors.

In the letter to the pastor in **Revelation 3:14-19** we read, "And unto the angel (pastor) of the church of the Laodiceans write..." (v.14). To the pastor He said, "I know thy works, that thou (pastor), art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot." (v.15). This rebuke was not leveled at the people of the church at Laodicea, it was leveled at the pastor. It was to the pastor the Lord said, "...be zealous therefore, and repent" (v.15).

"I Would Ye Were Cold..."

It was to the pastor Jesus said, "I would thou wert cold or hot" (v.15). He said, "cold or hot!" The Lord has more respect for the pastor who is cold than for the one who won't take a position.

Do You Really Want To Make The Lord Sick?

Revelation 3:16 says, "So then because thou (pastor) art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." The pastor's mandate is to teach his people the truth concerning the issues we face in our age of apostasy. **Hosea 4:6** says "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge..."

Compromising To Get Numbers

There is nothing wrong with having a large congregation; however, the pastor who compromises the Word of God to get a crowd to sit in church to listen to him preach his lukewarm sermons is sickening to God. The pastor at Laodicea had his focus on material things. Notice he said, "I am rich, and increased with goods..."

He did not say we are rich. This pastor's focus was not on the people. It was on the program.

God Spits Him Out

Verse sixteen says, "So then because thou (pastor) art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." This verse is not dealing with the subject of salvation nor is it dealing with the church. It concerns the pastor, who may look successful, but is no longer representing the Lord.

"Thou Shalt Be As My Mouth"

If the prophet was right with God, **Jeremiah 15:19** tells us that God said, "...thou shalt be as my mouth." When the prophet refused to do things God's way, he may have continued to speak; however, he was no longer speaking for God. Jeremiah 1:7 says, God plainly warned Jeremiah saying, "...whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak."

The pastor at Laodicea thought he was doing a great job. Christ said to him, "...thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked." In verse nineteen Christ said, "...be zealous therefore, and repent."

Repent? This kind of pastor sees no need to repent. He teaches unsaved people they need not repent, why should he? It matters not that Christ has commanded six pastors and a local church congregation to repent in His letter to the pastors. (Revelation 2:5, 2:16, 2:21, 2:22, 3:3, 3:19).

"Because sentence (decree) against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil."

(Ecclesiastes 8:11)