

Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!





Praise and Prayer Request

Philippians 1:3-6 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text 'Call to Worship' and 'Psalm 14' is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, bold, black font.

Call to Worship

Psalm 14

Psalm 14 The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD? There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous. You would shame the plans of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge. Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

I Need Thee Every Hour

Hymn 443



My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Hymn 84



Receiving of the Offering



2 Cor. 9:5 So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready **as a willing gift**, not as an exaction.

Famous Quote:

“The Bible is endorsed by the ages. Our civilization is built upon its words. In no other Book is there such a collection of inspired wisdom, reality, and hope.”

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

An open book is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with small, dense text, likely a Bible. The book is set against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, black font.

Today's Message

“Are You Lukewarm?”

Scripture text: Revelation 3:14-22

Revelation 3:15-16 "I know **your works**: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

Notice: The Lord **DID NOT SAY** "I Know Your Heart"! He Said ... "**I know your works**"

Jeremiah 17:9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and **desperately sick; who can understand it?**

Matthew 7:15-20 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. **You will recognize them by their fruits.** Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. **A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit,** nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. **Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.**

So what was the fruit of the Laodicean people?

Revelation 3:17-19 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, **not realizing** that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. **Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent.**

As with some of the previous churches, the Lord adapted His words to something significant about the city in which the assembly was located. In this case, **Laodicea was known** for its wealth and its manufacture of a special eye salve, as well as of a glossy black wool cloth.

It also was located near Hieropolis, where there were famous **hot springs**, and Colossae, known for its pure, **cold water**.

In the Christian life, there are **three “spiritual temperatures”**: a **burning heart**, on fire for God (Luke 24:32), a **cold heart** (Matt. 24:12), and a **lukewarm heart** (Rev. 3:16).

The lukewarm Christian is **comfortable, complacent**, and does not realize his need. If he were cold, at least he would feel it! ***Both the cold water from Colossae and the hot water from Hieropolis would be lukewarm by the time it was piped to Laodicea.***

A Burning Heart:

Luke 24:30-34 When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "**Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?**" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "**The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!**"

A Cold Heart:

Matthew 24:9-13 "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. And then **many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another.** And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. And because lawlessness will be increased, the **love of many will grow cold.** But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Revelation 3:15-16 "I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! So, **because you are lukewarm**, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

This is a very **Dangerous Condition!!!**

This is similar to that of the characters in John Bunyan's *Pilgrims Progress*, of "simple", "sloth", and "presumption".

These three men had chains on their feet, for they are in bondage to the sins of **“simplicity”, “sloth”, and “presumption”**.

These **3 sins** prevent men from **hearing, considering, and embracing** the truth of God’s Word and the Gospel.

The **simple man**, who lacks wisdom, discernment, and judgment made the statement in the story ... **“I see no danger.”**

Proverbs 1:22-27 "How long, **O simple ones**, will you love being **simple**? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? **If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.** Because I have called and you refused to listen, have stretched out my hand and no one has heeded, because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when terror strikes you, when terror strikes you like a storm and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

The **slothful man**, who is too lazy to do anything that might help himself. The Character in the story said: ... **“let me sleep a little more”**.

This is the one who wants a little more time, they are just not ready yet. It seem as if this Christianity thing is to hard, to time consuming, to difficult, and their just not sure if they want to put forth the effort! **This would include:** Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, witnessing, teaching, and discipleship.

Proverbs 6:6-11 Go to the ant, **O sluggard**;
consider her ways, and be wise. Without having
any chief, officer, or ruler, she prepares her
bread in summer and gathers her food in
harvest. **How long will you lie there, O
sluggard?** When will you arise from your sleep?
A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of
the hands to rest, and poverty will come upon
you like a robber, and want like an armed man.

The **presumptuous man**, in the story said: ... **“I can make it myself, without any help from you”**.

This person is deceived and rest in a false sense of security, as if they are **“good”** on their own or by their own merit.

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way **that seems right to a man**, but **its end is the way to death**.

Let me paint this picture in another light ...

Imagine for a moment that you are a passenger on the **Titanic**, it has just hit an iceberg, and a sailor come to you and informs you of the **impending danger**. What will be your response?

Simple – “**danger, what danger, I see no danger here**”.

Sloth - “**let me sleep a little more**”.

Presumption, “**I can make it myself, without any help from you**”.

Or, will you be on the **life raft**, wondering **what is wrong** with those people?

Proverbs 9:4-11 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. **Leave your simple ways, and live,** and walk in the way of insight." Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; **reprove a wise man, and he will love you.** Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; **teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.** The **fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.** For by me your days will be multiplied, and years will be added to your life.

“Why is it that new Christians create problems in the church?” a young pastor once asked me. “They don’t create problems,” I replied. **“They reveal them.** The problems have always been there, but **we’ve gotten used to them.** New Christians are like children in the home: **they tell the truth about things!**”

The Laodicean church was blind to its own needs and unwilling to face the truth. Yet honesty is the beginning of true blessing, as we admit what we are, confess our sins, and receive from God all that we need. **If we want God’s best for our lives and churches, we must be honest with God and let God be honest with us.**

We enjoy a beverage that is either hot or cold, but one that is tepid is flat and stale. That's why the waitress keeps adding hot coffee or fresh iced tea to our cups and glasses.

The second law of thermodynamics requires that a **“closed system”** eventually moderates so that no more energy is being produced. Unless something is added from the outside, **the system decays and dies.** Without added fuel, the hot water in the boiler becomes cool; without electricity, the refrigerant in the freezer becomes warm.

The church cannot be a “closed system.”

***John 15:5** I am the vine; you are the branches.*

*Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, **for apart from me you can do nothing.***

The Laodicean church was independent, self-satisfied, and secure. “We have need of nothing!”

But all the while, their spiritual power had been **decaying**; their material wealth and glowing statistics were but **shrouds hiding a rotting corpse**. Their Lord was outside the church, trying to get in (Rev. 3:20).

Luke 12:35-38 "Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and **be like men** who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. **Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes.** Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and **finds them awake, blessed are those servants!**

Revelation 3:20-22 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me. The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. **He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.**”

Where are you? Are you on fire for the Lord Jesus Christ, lukewarm, or cold to the things of God? What fruit are you bearing or what would someone say about your faith in Jesus Christ?

If this is you, repent, be cold and lukewarm no longer!

Holy Communion



The Family of God

I'm so glad to be part of the family of God

**I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by
His blood**

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod

For I'm part of the family, the family of God.