

S HOMEWORK: Matthew 19:13-30; Luke 19:1-10

S Today's message: "Do I Make God Sick?" (Revelation 3:14-22)

WHAT MAKES ME SICK?

- Vomiting experience: At work, buy breakfast, sitting at table, take a bite, and open my milk, and take in a big drink... only to find out that it is soured/clabbered?

Jesus quoting from Isaiah 29:13...

- S** (Matthew 15:7) Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,
- (Matthew 15:8) This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; **but their heart is far from me.**
- (Matthew 15:9) **But in vain they do worship me**, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Talk the God talk, but their heart and actions are not anywhere near me

S REVIEW: *IMG: Gallup Poll: 94% Of ALL Americans believe in God or higher power*

S DEF: PRACTICAL ATHEIST: **Someone who believes in God but lives as if He does NOT exist**

S	I BELIEVE IN GOD BUT...	
	• I don't FEAR him	• I don't want to become too serious
	• I don't want to take it too far	• I don't want to become a fanatic
	• I want to blend in with society	

You CAN talk about God but when you talk about Jesus it brings in some tension

S *IMG: RUINS OF LAODICEE -- Laodicea History*

- Laodicea - advantageous position on a trade route, became one of the most important and flourishing commercial cities of Asia Minor
- Great wealth to buy gold - Banking industry (lending/exchanging)
- Developed a taste for the arts of the Greeks
- Advances in science: Eye salve or balm
- Known for having lots of earthquakes
- Completely destroyed and rebuilt from their own means.
- Stadiums, Theatres, Centers of Learning

S (Revelation 3:14) 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;

(Revelation 3:15) I know thy **works**, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

- Works, deeds, your actions, visible outward life

S (Revelation 3:16) So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, **I will spue (emeho) thee out of my mouth.**

- God is looking at Christianity today... how is he feeling about that?
- You should know who I am but you're living as if I don't even exist
- I sent my son Jesus to die for you so that you could truly live.
- And yet you think that by squeezing me into your schedule every now and then will satisfy me? Whenever it's CONVENIENT?
- That kind of living makes me want to puke.

MODERN CHRISTIANITY... WHAT IS AN OXYMORON?

Two Words put together that shouldn't go together: Jumbo shrimp / Lukewarm Christian

Q: Is it possible to be a lukewarm Christian? To be half-hearted?

1) Crave acceptance from people more than God (fit it)

S (Luke 6:26) Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets.

2) Rarely share their faith in Christ. Jesus is controversial. Don't want to offend anybody.

S (Matthew 10:32) Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven.

3) Think more about life on earth, than things above. Image, position, status, lifestyle

S (Colossians 3:2) Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

4) Only turns to God when in a bind -- Pull out my "God tool"

S (Jeremiah 3:1) They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD.

5) Want the benefits of what Christ did without conforming to who he is. Not much different than the rest of the world -- Entertainment, Divorce

S (Romans 12:2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind...

- Lukewarm -- I want to throw you up. You make me nauseous.

WE GO THROUGH SEASONS IN OUR LIFE

- Job, married, kids... Full-time dad and a part-time follower of Christ.
- Full-time college student and part-time follower of Christ
- Full-time mom and a part-time follower of Christ
- Full-time businessperson and a part-time follower of Christ
- Full-time in ministry and a part-time follower of Christ

Over time you still believe in Christ but you sometimes put him aside. Not that you intended to do that, but you wake up and see

- Do you really want to see where Church of Jesus is Hot? There are places in the world where if you confess Christ, they will kill you.
- There, if you call yourself a Christian, it means something! You could die!
- So guess what they do? They sacrifice, they give, they pray, and they're different.

Q: What's worse? To be lukewarm and NOT know it... or KNOW that I'm lukewarm and NOT CARE?

S (Revelation 3:17) 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:

**Q: Is there is such a thing as a lukewarm Christian?
Q: Does this sound like spirit-filled men and women?**

TAKEAWAY:

S (Revelation 3:20) 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.

THE LUKEWARM DO NOT KNOW JESUS; WHO IS JESUS? I AM...

S Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last	Good Shepherd
True Vine	King of Kings, and Lord of Lords
Door	Lamb of God
Way, the Truth, and the Life	Lion of the tribe of Judah
Bread of Life	The Great I AM!

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