

ACTS TO REVELATION

Drive Thru History | The World of the First Christians

This Week's Scripture

Colossians, Philemon and Jude

BEHOLD, I STAND AT THE DOOR AND KNOCK



The final letter to the seven churches of Asia Minor is probably the best known of the messages Jesus dictated to the Apostle John. The reason it is the most familiar is because of what Jesus says in Revelation 3:20, "Behold, I stand at (Continued...)"



The Book Closes on the New Testament Period

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Re-read Revelation 3:14-22

In this letter to the Laodiceans, Jesus calls Himself "The Amen." To say "Amen" at the end of a prayer is to make a bold affirmation that something is utterly trustworthy, a foundation on which we can build our lives. What are some of the implications for your life if you can affirm that Jesus is, indeed, "The Amen." Let me encourage you to be specific.

Jesus also refers to Himself as "the faithful and true witness." The word He uses for "true" is best translated as "genuine" as opposed to illusory or counterfeit. What Jesus says about God is exactly true because He exactly represents God. What are the implications for your life and your relationship with others if you agree with this assertion?

the door and knock, If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they with me." These words were immortalized by Holman Hunt's famous painting of Jesus standing at a closed door, the door knob on the inside. The growth of vines around the door in Hunt's painting indicated that it has probably been a long time since this door had been opened.

Many of us have heard Revelation 3:20 used during an evangelistic message and that is an appropriate use of this text. But Jesus did not speak these words to people who were unbelievers. He spoke them to His church. They were spoken to believers who thought they had all that they needed. In this final letter, Jesus delivers a hard-hitting challenge and offers one of the greatest blessings anyone could imagine.

Small Group Prayer Requests

Record them here..



Just click [HERE](#) to watch episode 18, The Book Closes on the New Testament Period.

Jesus also refers to Himself as "the beginning of God's creation." The Greek word, 'arche' (beginning) does not simply mean the first in a sequence. It means the source of the sequence, the originator, the archetype of the sequence. Jesus is saying that He is the source of all life. How does that truth shape your thinking about Christ and your relationship to Him?

And all of this is why Jesus was nauseated by lukewarmness. C.S. Lewis once observed, "Jesus Christ produced mainly three effects—hatred, terror, adoration. There was no trace of people expressing mild approval." According to this passage of Scripture, what had happened to the Laodicean Christians? How might we end up becoming lukewarm followers of Jesus?

Darrell Johnson writes, "The Christians of Laodicea had drunk deeply of the spirit of Laodicea—the spirit that permeates the cities of the modern world." What does Jesus counsel the Laodiceans to do? How might we apply Jesus' counsel in our own lives this week?

Lukewarmness is due to the fact that we have excluded Jesus from one or more areas of our lives. Jesus says to us, "Let me in!" As Robert Boyd Munger points out in his sermon **My Heart Christ's Home**, Jesus is requesting access to every room in our house. Have we opened the front door to Jesus? If so, are there other locked doors inside your house to which you need to give Jesus the key? Let me invite you to speak to Jesus about that room. Let me encourage you to share this also with a trusted disciple of Jesus who can support you and pray with you.

Notes from the Video and Discussion

What other insights, questions, challenges, encouragements are you taking with you tonight? Record your thoughts and any action steps you intend to take in the space below.