



***Revelation 3:13***

*'He who has an  
ear, let him hear  
what the Spirit  
says to the  
churches.'*

“PEOPLE’S HEARTS HAVE BECOME ‘FAT’” MT. 13:15

WHY ARE PEOPLE NOT  
RETURNING TO CHURCH?

- F: FEAR FILLED
- A: Apathetic
- T: TURNED OFF

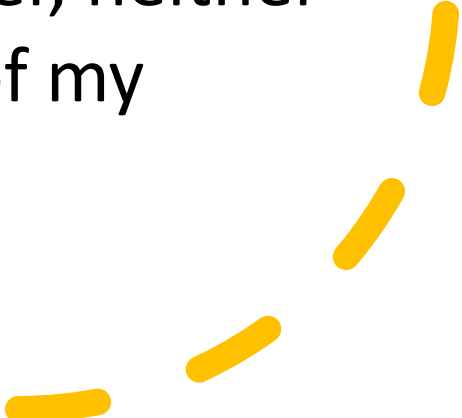
*Revelation 3:13*

*He who has an ear, let  
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says to the churches.’*

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# THE LUKEWARM (APATHETIC) CHURCH

**Revelation 3:14–16 (NLT) — 14** “Write this letter to the angel of the church in Laodicea. This is the message from the one who is the Amen—the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s new creation: **15** “I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other! **16** But since you are like lukewarm water, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth!

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# THE LUKEWARM (APATHETIC) CHURCH



*BLINDED TO TRUTH*

**Revelation 3:17–18 (NLT) — 17** You say, ‘I am rich. I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing!’ And you don’t realize that you are wretched and miserable and poor and blind and naked.

- *Apathy blinds to the reality of our true condition... “you say...and you don’t realize”*
  - *We think we are rich, when we are in reality very poor, miserable, and exposed in our shameful condition*
  - *We think we are “ok” when we are a mess*
  - *We measure our lives by the wrong standard*
  - *We are deceived*

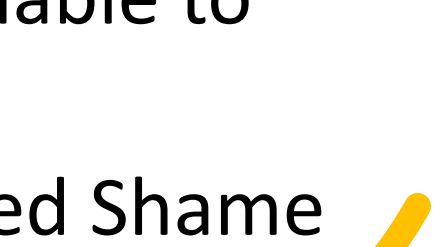
# LUKEWARM DECEPTION

17. YOU SAY, 'I AM RICH. I HAVE EVERYTHING I WANT. I DON'T NEED A THING!' AND YOU DON'T REALIZE THAT YOU ARE WRETCHED AND MISERABLE AND POOR AND BLIND AND NAKED

## THE GREAT DECEPTION OF THE LUKEWARM

BELIEVE THEY ARE RICH...BUT ARE DECEIVED

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT THEM..."YOU ARE..."

1. **WRETCHED:** of Poor Quality
  2. **MISERABLE:** Pitiabile, Deserving of Pity
  3. **POOR:** Beggar, Pauper, Destitute
  4. **BLIND:** Spiritually Blind, Unable to Understand
  5. **NAKED:** Uncovered, Exposed Shame
- 



## LUKEWARMNESS/APATHY RESULTS IN NO SPIRITUAL INSIGHT INTO GOD'S WORD; NO PROPHETIC REVELATION

LUKEWARM  
DECEPTION



*CANNOT  
DISCERN  
WHAT THE  
SPIRIT IS SAYING*

- **Proverbs 29:18 (ESV)** Where there is no prophetic vision (divine guidance) the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.
- **Matthew 13:15 (NLT)** For the hearts of these people are hardened, and their ears cannot hear, and they have closed their eyes— so their eyes cannot see, and their ears cannot hear, and their hearts cannot understand, and they cannot turn to me and let me heal them.'

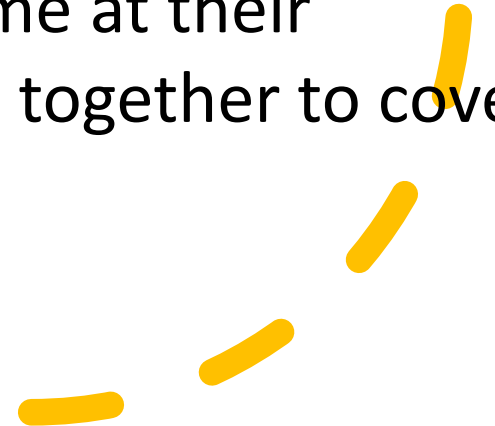
LUKEWARM  
DECEPTION



*DECEIVES US  
TO CREATE  
OUR OWN  
REMEDY AND  
JUSTIFICATION  
FOR OUR SIN*

IGNORANT TO THEIR OWN NAKEDNESS & SHAME  
ATTEMPT TO COVER THEIR OWN SIN AND PRETEND  
IT'S NOT REALLY THERE

**Genesis 3:6–7 (NLT)** — **6** The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. **7** At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.



THE  
LUKEWARM  
(APATHETIC)  
CHURCH



HEALING THE  
DISEASE OF  
APATHY

**Revelation 3:18–22 (NLT)** — **18** *So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.* **19** I correct and discipline everyone I love. So be diligent and turn from your indifference. **20** “Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. **21** Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on his throne. **22** “Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what he is saying to the churches.”



# HOW DO I KNOW IF I'M LUKEWARM?

1. If YOU NEED TO ASK....YOU ARE!
2. NO HUNGER FOR GOD'S WORD;
3. NO DESIRE TO PRAY;
4. NO ENTHUSIASM FOR THINGS OF GOD...CHURCH, FELLOWSHIP, GIVING, MENTORING;
5. MORE INFLUENCED BY THE WORLD'S CULTURE THAN BIBLICAL/KINGDOM CULTURE;
6. FIND YOURSELF ACCEPTING BEHAVIORS NOW THAT YOU DIDN'T WHEN FIRST MADE JESUS LORD OF YOUR LIFE;
7. YOU JUST FIND YOURSELF JUST "GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS"

# OVERCOMING LUKEWARMNESS

- **Revelation 3:18, 20 (NLT)** — *18 So I advise you to buy gold from me—gold that has been purified by fire. Then you will be rich. Also buy white garments from me so you will not be shamed by your nakedness, and ointment for your eyes so you will be able to see.*

1. Buy Gold from Jesus: Only He is to be our heart's treasure
2. Buy white garments: Only His righteousness can cover sin's shame
3. Buy ointment for eyes: Only Holy Spirit enables us to see

**19b.** So be diligent and turn from your indifference. **20** “Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends

1. Diligently REPENT of hardness/dullness of heart
2. Invite Jesus to FELLOWSHIP with you: prayer, worship, Word of God

**The Motions  
by  
Matthew West**



*Revelation 3:13*

*'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'*