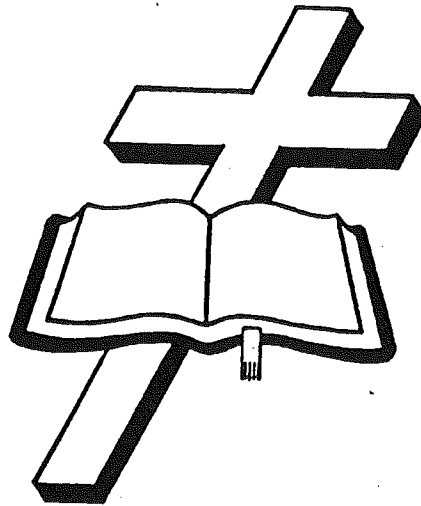


# LET'S GO SHOPPING

(A Shopping Bargain You Just Can't Refuse)  
Revelation 3:14-22



## “BUY OF ME”

- ◆ The Offense (Vs. 14-17)
- ◆ The Offer (Vs. 18)
- ◆ The Opportunity (Vs. 19, 20)

“I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire that thou mayest be rich”  
(Revelation 3:18)

Bill Kirk

# “LET’S GO SHOPPING”

**Text:** Revelation 3:14-22

**Subject:** “A Shopping Bargain You Cannot Refuse”

**Question:** How many of you have ever been shopping?

**Question:** How many of you have ever checked a price tag or been to a sale?

**Question:** How many of you have ever picked up something in a store, viewed the price tag, and said “It would be nice to have, but it cost too much for me?”

- ◆ The sticker shock scares you away!
- ◆ The price tag turns you off!
- ◆ The cost is just too much!

#1. A favorite pastime for Americans is “Window shopping”.

#2. A favorite pastime for Laodicea was “Window shopping”.

## (What Is A “Window Shopping” Christian?)

- ◆ Someone who sees the price tag and says this: “It would be nice to have, but it costs too much for me” (Sticker shock scared us away).
- ◆ And we settle for less than God’s best (when we could do business with God on His terms).

## (Now Remember)

- ◆ God’s market place is much different than the Mall.
- ◆ There are no “Blue light” specials like K-Mart. (No bargain basement for low spenders)

## (Why?)

#1. Because there is a price to pay to do business with God, (and)

#2. Because anyone who wants to do business with God, must come on God’s terms and pay the price.

## (And The Good News Is)

- ◆ We can buy some things without money! (And God has much to give)
- ◆ The things we really want (and need) down deep inside have been bought and paid for!
- ◆ To buy in God’s “Market Place” means you part with something you consider valuable (to make room for something more valuable).

## Now Travel With Me Into Laodicea

1. Laodicea was a wealthy banking center 40 miles East of Ephesus. (Known for 3 things)

- ◆ Its banking business
- ◆ A glossy black wool cloth
- ◆ A famous medical school

**Fact:** It was in this city where God had planted a local church.

**Fact:** It was in Laodicea that Jesus sent a message to the church.

**Question:** Pastor, why did Jesus say, “I wish you were hot or cold” in (v. 15)?

**Question:** Pastor, what does it mean to be “lukewarm” in (v. 16)?

**Question:** Pastor, what does Jesus want us to go shopping for in (v. 18)?

**Question:** Pastor, why is Jesus knocking at the door in (v. 20)

**Question:** And what difference does it make to me?

## (3 Revelations Come To Us From Laodicea)

I. The “Offense” Of The Lukewarm (Vs 14-17)

(V. 15) “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot, I would that you were cold or hot”

(V. 16) “So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth”

**Question:** Pastor, what did Jesus discover when He examined church goers in Laodicea?

**Answer:** He discovered 4 things that caution us:

#1. Believers had lost their Fervency

(V. 16) "Thou art lukewarm"

**Question:** What is a lukewarm Christian?

- ◆ Someone whose fervor has gone cold and whose prayer closet is empty.
- ◆ Someone whose Bible has become dusty and whose worship missing.
- ◆ Someone whose self-denial is set aside and whose attitude is sour.
- ◆ Someone whose giving is held back and whose eyes have turned dry.
- ◆ Someone whose eternity is out of sight and whose purpose is out of mind.

#2. Believers had lost their Humility

(V.17) "You say you are rich, increased with goods and need nothing"

**Fact:** The believers in Laodicea were wealthy. (They boasted of material gain).

**Question:** Pastor, if riches are okay, (and they are) then why was Jesus offended?

**Answer:** Because of 2 reasons:

- #1. The church equated prosperity with spirituality.
- #2. The believers felt their need of "nothing". (**Which Means:**)

- ◆ Pride kept them from crying out to God.
- ◆ Pride made them feel self-made and self-sufficient.
- ◆ Pride led believers to compare and carry on as though everything was A.O.K.

(Jesus said they were really wretched, miserable and poor)

#3. Believers had lost their Sight

(V. 17) "And blind"

(The Greek word for blind (TOPHLOS) means:

- ◆ "To be short sighted with loss of vision".
- ◆ Believers lost sight of God, themselves and lost people.
- ◆ They only saw what was natural around them (money, human ability and self help).
- ◆ There was no looking to God for His supernatural power to work within the church.

#4. Believers had lost their Clothes

(V. 17) "Thou art naked"

**Fact:** The Greek word for "Naked" here is (GUMNOS) which means:

- ◆ "To be naked or unclothed in the righteousness of Jesus".
- ◆ The Laodiceans believed that good works, good money, good religious form and rituals gained God's approval (and gave them right standing before God).
- ◆ They were trusting in what they had, who they were and what they had done (to be righteous before God).

**Question:** Why did Jesus examine the church?

They had lost their fervency, humility, sight and clothes!

(Which Leads Us To The Two Question)

- ◆ Why did Jesus say in (v. 5), I wish you were either hot or cold?
- ◆ And, why are the lukewarm nauseating to Jesus?

(It Is Clear And Simple)

#1. The spiritually cold make no claim to be a Christian.

#2. The spiritually hot are on fire for Jesus, (and they affect many and they make a difference.

(In Other Words, Says Jesus)

- ◆ Better to be cold (where no one would expect something from you),
- ◆ Than to be lukewarm (and appear to be something, yet have nothing at all).

(In Plain Vanilla, It Is A Waste)

- ◆ To be a little too cold (to be hot) or a little too warm (to be cold)
- ◆ If you are spiritually cold you won't be a hypocrite trying to fool people (you are just cold and frozen to spiritual things).
- ◆ If you are spiritual hot, you have the goods and people are blessed by your dedication.
- ◆ But if you are lukewarm (it is an insult to the ability of Jesus to make you hot).

(In Other Words)

- ◆ We are no good to Satan's kingdom if we are only 1/2 cold. (He needs all of you)
- ◆ We are no good to God's kingdom if we are only 1/2 hot. (He needs all of you)

(So We Must Make A Choice)

- ◆ And go shopping for what Jesus has for us.
- Question:** How many of you want what Jesus has for you?

II. The "Offer" Of Jesus To Go Shopping (V. 18)

(V. 18) "I counsel you to buy of me" (Buy what?) (Buy three things and buy them today)

#1. "Buy gold tried in the fire that you may be rich"

**Question:** What is this gold Jesus refers to?

**Answer:** It refers to the genuine true gold of imperishable wealth.

- ◆ The things that make your life really rich.
- ◆ Things like joy, peace, security, hope and true happiness.
- ◆ Things that no amount of money can buy for you (your health, a clear conscience, a rested spirit - that only come from God.)

(Jesus Says Buy Of Me Gold Today) Which Means:

- ◆ Spend your life to obtain lasting treasure.
- ◆ Invest your life for eternal dividends.
- ◆ Build your life on a spiritual foundation.
- ◆ Live your life to bring glory to God.

(Let's go shopping, spend ourselves, and purchase something that won't rust or wear out)

#2. "Buy white raiment so you'll be clothed and not be naked"

**Question:** Pastor, what is the white raiment we all are supposed to exchange for and buy?

**Answer:** The white raiment is necessary so we won't be naked and ashamed:

(The White Clothing Refers To Two Things)

#1. It refers to the spiritual clothing of the righteousness of Jesus.

- ◆ It means to be saved, born again, a Christian, and acceptable to God.
  - ◆ It means we can make a purchase (and oh what a deal)!
  - ◆ What we pay or give up (is our sin) What we receive or purchase (is eternal life)
- Fact:** The only way not to be spiritually naked (is to be clothed with the righteousness of Jesus)

#2. "To buy of white raiment" also refers to righteous acts (Holy living) so that our conduct won't leave us spiritually naked and embarrassed. (It is two-fold)

- ◆ At Salvation (we inherit the righteousness of Jesus)
- ◆ After Salvation (we live out His righteousness so we don't bring shame to Him.)

#3. **“Buy anointed eyes so that you can see”**

- ◆ The Laodiceans didn't see what the presence of Jesus could do in the church.
- ◆ There was an anointing of His Spirit that God had for every believer.

**Question:** What is this anointing of the Holy Spirit?

**Answer:** It is the free flow of the Holy Spirit, flowing through the life of the believer, unhindered by an unyielding self life. (repeat)

**Question:** How many of you desire to be filled and anointed with the Spirit of God?

**Question:** How many of you are willing to go shopping (and pay the price to maintain this anointing?)

**(It's Time To Go Shopping)**

**Question:** What are we to buy? (3 things on our list)

- #1. **Gold tried by fire** (We give up our self life and in return we purchase joy unspeakable and full of glory.)
- #2. **White raiment** (We give up our sins and in return Jesus clothes us in a robe of right standing before God.)
- #3. **Anointed Eyes** (We give up everything doubtful and questionable and purchase (or receive) the unhindered flow of the Holy Spirit - and we can see things others will never see.)

III. **The “Opportunity” That Cries Out To You And Me**

**Question:** What is the loud appeal from the Lord to our hearts in (vs, 19, 20)?

(V. 19) “As many as I love I rebuke and chasten”

**Question:** Why does Jesus confront us, convict us and point out our weaknesses?

**Answer:** Because, (v. 19) He loves even the lukewarm saint that tries to live in two worlds (one foot in - one foot out).

- ◆ The word for love is (PHILO) which means: A dear, a tender, a Fatherly love.
- ◆ It is not out of anger He chastens us, it is out of love.
- ◆ The Lord just flat out wants what is best for you (don't waste it).

**What is Jesus Doing Right Now In (V. 20)**

#1. **Jesus is standing** (v. 20)

- ◆ This standing symbolizes His readiness to come to you, approach you (it's His initiative).

#2. **Jesus is knocking** (v. 20)

- ◆ This knocking refers to a continual knocking until we open the door.

#3. **Jesus is pleading** (v. 20)

- ◆ “I will come in to you” means; Jesus is pleading for entrance (He longs for you to make a purchase you will never regret).

#4. **Jesus is speaking** (v. 20)

- ◆ “If any man hear my voice” means: Jesus is talking through the Word, and by the Spirit to us.

**Question:** How can I go beyond window shopping and do business on God's terms?

**Question:** How can I make a purchase I'll never regret?

**Question:** How can I get beyond any lukewarmness and be useful to God?

**(4 Words In (v. 19) “Be Zealous And Repent”)**

- ◆ The word “Zealous” (means:) “To boil and burn with zeal and sincerity in turning around”.
  - ◆ It means: “To burn a path to repent and turn”.
  - ◆ It means: “To turn immediately without wasting one more minute”. (Why?)
- “Because in (v. 16) we will be in danger of being “spued out” or forfeiting all that God has to give!!!

Amen!  
Bill Kirk, Pastor)