



**DANGER**

# **DANGERS**



**DANGER**

*Facing The*

# **LORD'S CHURCH**

## **THE DANGER OF APATHY**

**THE  
WORLD**

**PRIDE /  
SELFISHNESS**

**ERROR /  
DIVISION**

**STUFF /  
MATERIALISM**

**APATHY /  
COMPROMISE**



**DANGER**



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# **DANGERS** *facing The* **LORD'S CHURCH**

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## **The church (people of God) has always faced DANGER!**

-  Persecution / temptation – Mark 13:9 / 1 Cor. 10:1-13; 1 John 2:15-17; Mt 6:24
-  Carnality – 1 Cor. 3:1ff; Jam 3:14ff
-  Drifting away from the truth – Heb. 2:1; Gal. 1:6-9
-  Deception – Mat. 24:4; 2 Pet 2:1-22
-  Lukewarmness – Rev 3:14 ff



# **DANGERS** *facing The* **LORD'S CHURCH**



**THE  
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## ■ **So Far we have examined ...**

- ◆ The Danger of Self-Righteousness
- ◆ The Danger of Liberalism
- ◆ The Danger of False Doctrine
- ◆ The Danger of Formalism
- ◆ The Danger of Persecution
- ◆ The Danger of Compromise
- ◆ The Danger of Leaven
- ◆ The Danger of Dying

*Dangers Facing The*

# LORD'S CHURCH

**DANGER  
AHEAD**

**DANGER OF  
BECOMING LUKE-WARM**

REVELATION 3:14-22

# REVELATION 3:14-22 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> “And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: <sup>15</sup> “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. <sup>16</sup> So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. <sup>17</sup> Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked—

## REVELATION 3:14-22 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, *that* the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. <sup>19</sup> As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.

# REVELATION 3:14-22 (NKJV)

<sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. <sup>21</sup> To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. <sup>22</sup> “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ”

The PROBLEM of

# APATHY

Lukewarm / indifferent / lackadaisical / don't care attitude

**A SERIOUS condition** – 15,16

"because you are lukewarm, and  
neither cold nor hot, I will vomit  
you out of My mouth ..."



The PROBLEM of

APATHY

Lukewarm / indifferent / lackadaisical / don't care attitude

**Blind to TRUE Condition - 17**

"[you] do not know that you are  
wretched, miserable, poor, blind,  
and naked ..."



The PROBLEM of

APATHY

Lukewarm / indifferent / lackadaisical / don't care attitude

**Can Be OVERCOME** – 18,19

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent."

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## WHY SO SERIOUS?

Revelation 3:15,16  
(NKJV)

“because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth ...”

- ▶ They may have called their **lukewarmness** - charity, meekness, moderation, and a largeness of soul; but it was nauseous to Christ.
- ▶ “**I will vomit ...**” - To reject with abhorrence. God abhors indifference in religion no less than open infidelity or open immorality.

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## WHY SO SERIOUS?

Revelation 3:15,16  
(NKJV)

“because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth ...”

- ▶ **Disrespects GOD** — vs. 17; Malachi 1:6-13; Titus 2:14
- ▶ **Disrespects JESUS** and His sacrifice — 2 Cor. 5:14; Heb 10:26-31
- ▶ **Disrespects THOSE FOR WHOM CHRIST DIED** — 1 John 3:16,17; Rom 14:8-13

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## WHY SO SERIOUS?

Revelation 3:15,16  
(NKJV)

“because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth ...”

- ▶ A lukewarm, apathetic, indifferent, lackadaisical, don't care attitude, **inoculates** one from receiving genuine saving faith. — Mat 13:19-22; Jn 7:16
- ▶ In such a state - one sees no need to change! — vs. 17; Jn 9:40,41; 2 Pet 1:9

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## WHY SO SERIOUS?

Revelation 3:15,16  
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“because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth ...”



### APATHY CAUSES ...

- ◆ Things go undone
- ◆ Work is not completed
- ◆ The tendency to cut back is advanced
- ◆ Lax in preserving the purity of the church
- ◆ Other members in the church Are Discouraged

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## HOW DID THEY BECOME “LUKEWARM?”

Revelation 3:17  
(NKJV)

“Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing’— ...”

- ▶ Implies self-praise and self reliance in self-acquired riches - (The rich fool - Luke 12:17-19; The praying Pharisee - Luke 18:11)
- ▶ They allowed their wealth and comfort to become their downfall without even recognizing it.
- ▶ They did NOT “give all diligence” to spiritual growth — 2 Pet 1:5-11

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## ACTUAL STATE OF THE “LUKEWARM”

Revelation 3:17  
(NKJV)

“... and do not  
know that you  
are wretched,  
miserable, poor,  
blind, and naked  
—”

- ▶ **Wretched** – condemned - state of helplessness - Rom 7:24
- ▶ **Miserable** – condition of despair – 1 Cor 15:19
- ▶ **Poor** – Spiritual poverty = greatest poverty – Mt 16:26; Lk 12:21
- ▶ **Blind** – Ignorance / He is blindest who will not see – 2 Peter 1:9
- ▶ **Naked** – a condition of shame / without Christ – 2 Cor 5:2-4

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## OVERCOMING APATHY

Revelation 3:19  
(NKJV)

“As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.”

- ▶ “Buy buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich;” - Is 55:1; Prov 23:23; 1 Pet 1:6-9; Mat 6:19-21; 13:44-46
- ▶ They needed to be clothed with purity and righteousness – Rev 3:4,5; 7:13,14; 16:15; 19:8
- ▶ They needed spiritual sight – The truth – 2 Thes 2:10-12; Col 1:9,10; Ps 19:8; Jam 1:18-25

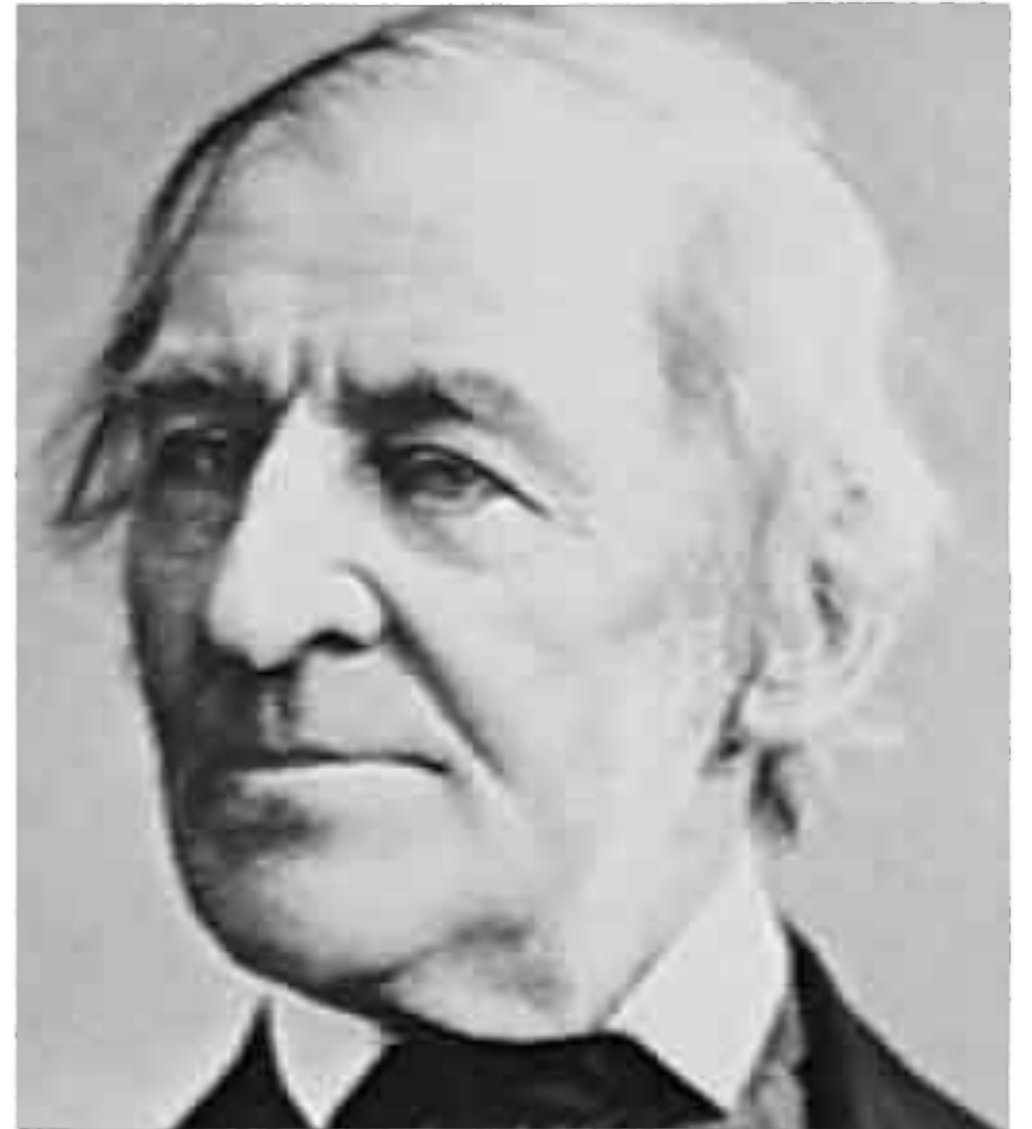
# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

**LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD**

“Nothing great  
was ever  
achieved without  
enthusiasm” —

*R. W. Emerson*



# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

**LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD**



2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD

## Titus 2:11-15 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,



# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD



## Titus 2:11-15 (NKJV)

<sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

<sup>15</sup> Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD



Galatians 4:18 (NKJV)

<sup>18</sup> But it is good to be  
zealous in a good thing  
always, and not only when I  
am present with you.

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## LET US BE ZEALOUS FOR GOD



- ▶ **Bible Study** – 2 Pet. 2:2; Ps. 119:97-104;
- ▶ **Obeys the gospel** - Acts 22:16; 2 Cor 6:2
- ▶ **Spiritual Growth** – 2 Pet. 1:5-12.
- ▶ **Service to God** – Mark 12:29-31; Mat. 6:33,
- ▶ **Meeting Needs of Brethren** – Rom. 12:9-17; 2 Cor. 9:2; 1 Pt. 1:22; 4:8; Ja 5:16; Heb. 10:24,25
- ▶ **Defeating Sin & Error** – 2 Cor. 7:11; Mat. 5:30; John 2:17; Acts 17:16
- ▶ **Evangelism** – Mk 16:15; Acts 8:4; 1 Thes 1:7,8

# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write” - Rev 3:14*

## PREVENTING OR OVERCOMING APATHY IS A CHOICE

### Revelation 3:19–22 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. <sup>20</sup> Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. <sup>21</sup> To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. <sup>22</sup> “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” ’ ”

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PREVENTING OR OVERCOMING  
APATHY IS A CHOICE

We Are Passionate About What We Value Most!



Col. 3:1-3  
1 John 2:15-17  
Eccl. 1:1  
Matt. 6:19-34  
2 Cor. 4:18



# THE DANGER *of* APATHY

*"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write" - Rev 3:14*

## PREVENTING OR OVERCOMING APATHY IS A CHOICE



Revelation 3:22 (NKJV)  
He who has an ear, let him  
hear what the Spirit says to  
the churches."

- ▶ **The Lord wanted to save them**
- ▶ But they had to hear him – James 1:21-25
- ▶ They had to open the door – James 4:7-10; 5:19;
- ▶ The Lord desired to have fellowship with them – 1 Joh 1:3
- ▶ The same is true for us – Rev 22:17; Mark 16:16; Gal 3:26,27



# *Dangers Facing The* **LORD'S CHURCH**

**DANGER OF**  
**BECOMING LUKE-WARM**

REVELATION 3:14-22

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# TITUS 2:11-15 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, <sup>12</sup> teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, <sup>13</sup> looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup> who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works. <sup>15</sup> Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.