

5 Points on HOW to KEEP from being Deceived by the End time Beast and False Prophet



July 2021

Philip Shields

www.LightontheRock.org

All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

KEY WORDS: *The Beast, False Prophet, deceive, deception, martyrdom, Holy Spirit, end time, prophecy, truth, Eve.*

**** *** *******

Summary: An especially important topic with interesting graphics too. *We know the coming Beast/False Prophet will deceive just about everyone – and come close to convincing even God’s elect (Matthew 24:24). What’s happening to set the stage for this System to put its deception into action? What 5 steps can YOU be taking now to definitely avoid being deceived? Are you believing a LIE? Our very future is at stake. Let others know about this.*

Attempts to deceive are everywhere. SCAMS are rife. We’ve received several scam calls purportedly from **the Social Security Administration** for example. My wife got a call saying her Social Security card had been suspended and “press 1 to learn what to do about it.” That’s a scam. It’s dangerous. We should give NO personal information or money but just hang up. Then report the scam to **OIG.SSA.GOV** at once.

We also get frequent calls – purportedly again – from Amazon. This time saying I have a large suspicious purchase of \$1,200 and they need to talk to me about it. Those are scams too. Don’t fall for those.

Scripture tells us to ‘prove, test, check out -- all things’ – **1 Thess. 5:21.**

Hello everyone. I’m Philip Shields, your brother and Christ’s servant. Be sure you watch and listen to the sermon just prior to this one – “Will YOU be deceived by the end time false prophet?” – before hearing this one.

So what I've just described are *not* the big religious deception that engulfs the whole world especially at the very end – but setting the stage. *Let's get better at spotting these and avoiding internet cybercrime.* Be sure to read **Scott's blog on CYBER crime** and how to avoid being a victim. Be sure you do.

Today let's continue the theme of the massive end-time deception – and today will be **5 steps to AVOID becoming deceived** by the coming false prophet and Beast system. I don't believe we'll have to wait that much longer to see them on the scene. Be sure you hear last week's sermon first. All of us, sooner or later, get fooled by something or someone. I'm not talking about that. I'm talking about not being deceived by the end time great False Prophet.

Back to Christ's warning...let's review it:

Matthew 24:23-25

"Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There!' do not believe it.

24 For *false christs and false prophets* will rise and **show great signs and wonders to deceive, if POSSIBLE, EVEN the ELECT.**

25 See, I have told you beforehand."

So let's continue. The way too many believers reacted in the last US National election and what they were convinced would surely happen afterwards, made me realize... yes, we need a tune up on deception. This was good for ME as well.

So even the Elect come close to being deceived. The "elect" are God's children – those who have and are LED by his spirit (**Romans 8:9, 14**). They're holy and sanctified. The Elect of God are those whom the angels will gather and bring to Christ at his 2nd coming (**Matthew 24:31**). I do not believe "the elect" can be found in just one or two corporate church groups – but they're anyone, again, led by God's spirit.

But the point is, even these holy people come close to being deceived.

So let's also learn to fight the continual deceptions we face every day, even all those NOT of a religious nature, so we get good at spotting deception regardless of where it originates.

The GROUNDWORK is being laid for a new one-world order, all having the same goals and same laws. Even **our ONE DOLLAR bill speaks of New World Order. Novus Ordo Seclorum.** I'll give a full sermon some time that will elaborate. For now, I want to just hit quickly first a few key points.

I do not even open emails that are offering me something I did not ask for. The last thing you want is to be connecting to scammers who want to hack into your computer and put dangerous Ransom malware on your computer.

The time is coming when there will be mind-control being attempted. It's already started.

Here are some of the early steps being taken to set the stage for the end-time world ruler and false prophet, who reign the final 3-1/2 years

- Attempts to **Federalize** the police, the elections, the care of the nation and power of Big Pharma. More on this in a future sermon. (This point was not in the video)
- **Surveillance – cameras are everywhere. FACIAL recognition software** is being perfected.
- **We're seeing how governments around the world are gaining control over their populations under the cover of the Covid-19 emergencies – and most people seem to have no problem with it.**
- Mandatory vaccinations – before young adults can be admitted to universities, for example. **Vaccination passports.** Goal: control.
- **Personal data – huge amounts of it** – are being given voluntarily to the Big Tech giants through your “smart” phone. They watch our every Google search, our every purchase. Where is this all leading? EVERY email is being monitored. This sets the stage to have the goods on all!
- **A move to cashless society. Cash purchases are harder to track and control**, so digital purchases are more and more common. Again, people using their cell phone or smart watch to buy and sell – so everything about your financials and about you -- is being handed over to big Tech. But this also allows them to **potentially keep you from being able to buy or sell**, as Revelation 13 says. The stage is being set for the final total worldwide control and deception.
- **The MEDIA has** become a microphone for the Far Left.
- **Schools** and universities are filling our children's minds with “woke” anti-white teaching, the NEW Racism – even as God, Jesus, the Commandments, law, and order are thrown out. *Our public education*

*no longer teaches our sons and daughters **HOW to THINK, but WHAT to think.** The stage is all being set – even to be willing to rat out your own parents and friends who don't comply to the State!*

- **Holograms** are being perfected; this can be very confusing – is what you're seeing -- real or not? There's lots of work being done on that too. We better know our God and his Word, so we know what to pay attention to and what to dismiss.

Check this site out on the latest on holograms:

<https://www.portlhologram.com/>

Are YOU deceived? CAN you ever be deceived? Remember, NOBODY who is deceived even *realizes* he is! They're *deceived*. So they don't see it. Even those doing the deceiving don't realize they themselves are deceived! They believe their own deceptions!

2 Timothy 3:13

"But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, *deceiving and BEING deceived.*"

So it's ESPECIALLY important we understand this end time deception from the Beast system is already being set up as we speak. Don't be cocky that it can't happen to you. "Let him who *thinks* he stands take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

WHY do we need this topic? How important is it that we never give in to the Beast system, or the Mark of the Beast – or even ever become a part of the Satan's Babylon? Let's let God tell us:

Revelation 14:9-12

Then a third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and his image, and receives his mark on his forehead or on his hand, 10 he himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of GOD, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation.

He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.

11 And the smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night, who worship the beast and his image, and whoever receives the mark of his name."

12 Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who KEEP the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.

And also remember that those who don't worship the Beast system of Rev 13 will be killed (Revelation 13:15).

So we need to resolve this in our head now: "If I'm faced with either taking the mark of the Beast or being killed because I won't – I won't take the mark!" If you take the Mark – you will then receive the fury of GOD'S wrath. I'd rather die for God, than be under God's wrath.

Rev 16 is about the 7 last bowl plagues poured out by 7 of God's high-ranking angels:

Revelation 16:2

"So the first went and poured out his bowl upon the earth, and a foul and loathsome sore came upon the men who had the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image."

Don't let that be you!

And those who become enmeshed in this world's "Babylon" – **Rev 18:4** - *will also receive the plagues God crushes her with!* Read it! We have to come out!

Some Encouragement First

Let me encourage you first: I believe, IF you and I are part of a dedicated Elect who are actively seeking God and his word and obeying him and if we KNOW Him, we're hearing his voice – our Father will protect us from being deceived by the False Prophet at the end.

But -- IF you're NOT part of the elect and walk away from God's direction and his word for you -- yes, you will be deceived.

Listen to Yeshua's promise in John 10:27-30

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish;

neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and NO one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. I and My Father are one."

Isn't that encouraging? So let's focus on the ways to be sure we know Him, are listening to his voice and following HIM – as NO one then can snatch us out of

his hand. And we won't be deceived. If we're not closely attached to The Vine, yes, we could be in trouble.

HOW to AVOID BEING DECEIVED

Frankly, it will come down to having a deep, deep relationship with God and Yeshua. But let's dissect this concept of HOW we ensure we will not be deceived.

- 1. Pray to be FILLED with HOLY SPIRIT; God in us. God cannot be deceived, and if we're in tune with God and his spirit, neither will we. We must come to KNOW, really KNOW, God.**

If we're engaged with God's spirit, we will have eyes to see and ears to hear and God will tell us what to say. We need to be getting more and more experience in hearing God's voice and listening to his Spirit.

Mark 13:11-13

"But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. **But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.**

12 Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. 13 And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved."

Remember, when we receive God's spirit, we are sealed – protected –

Ephesians 1:13-14

"In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 the guarantee of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory".

And nothing can separate you from the love of Christ (read Romans 8:31-39).

HOW do we get filled with God's spirit?

- Repent and be baptized – and receive laying on of hands.**
- Yes – then be sure you are walking in obedience. Holy Spirit is given to those who OBEY GOD (Acts 5:32).**

- **Then keep ASKING for more of the spirit – every day. God WANTS us to have it. We have not, for we ask not. James 4:3**

Paul's stated big goal? "That I may KNOW HIM and the power of HIS resurrection..." (Philippians 3:9).

My friend Mike said this about how we keep from being deceived by the end time false prophet: "My opinion is that **it comes down to John 10:27.** Hearing His Voice, Him knowing us and we FOLLOW Him. **How** do we do this? We need to have the baptism of The Holy Spirit and be FILLED with Him. Knowing 100% we are filled with His Spirit, 100%! That's in my opinion the key to how we avoid being deceived."

So Mike says – be filled with Holy Spirit, which is God in us, and hear His voice. I break this up into 2 points. 1-ASK for and receive God's Holy Spirit 2 – TUNE IN to HEAR God's VOICE.

2. PRAY AND LISTEN. ASK TO HEAR OUR BELOVED MASTER'S VOICE AND FOLLOW HIM.

John 10:27-28

"MY sheep HEAR MY VOICE, and I know them, and they follow ME. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; **neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand."**

I have sermons on "Hearing God's voice". I recommend you check those out. TUNE IN to God like we used to do with old fashioned radios. ASK him to speak to you by his word, by things that happen to you, by words said by others, and by strong thoughts you know aren't yours – even as you pray. Tuning in to hear God should be a conscious action we do all the time.

SO many times, Yeshua the Son of God says, "TAKE HEED" – LISTEN. Pay attention. Watch out. Be on guard. Be listening to the right voice. Test everything you hear against God's Word. Put him first. Pray and study a lot more so you CAN detect truth and error. I **play audible Bibles** as I do chores or weed or get ready for bed – as well as intensive Bible study at my desk – as a way to be hearing and tuning in to God himself.

Also, to EACH of the 7 churches of Revelation, each one is told – "Let him who has an ear to hear, **let him HEAR what the SPIRIT says to the churches.**" (Revelation 3:13, 22 etc.).

Pray – and listen as you pray. Study- and listen as you study to what God is saying to YOU. HEAR our Master's voice. I have several sermons on **Hearing God's Voice** – just Search bar it. Pray for him to speak through his word to you as you study. As you pray – pause and ask him to speak to you. Sometimes you'll get very strong thoughts and guidance you know you didn't originate. Other times, maybe not – but sometimes answers come days later!

Psalm 32:8

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye."

- 3. Similar point but more focused: We need to THOROUGHLY KNOW GOD'S WORD, so you recognize any mounting deception beginning to happen around you.** Yeshua says in **Matthew 24:24-25** -- "See, I've told you". WHY would he say that unless it's important that we recognize his words and remember them?

Yeshua said the TRUTH sets us free (John 8:32). Free from bondage. Free from deception. KNOW the truth.

How are we going to avoid the end time deception if we're not in the word every single day? It's not a time to be lukewarm or putting anything ahead of seeking after God with all our heart.

In 2 Thessalonians, Paul says to people overly concerned about the 2nd coming of Messiah – that SATAN himself will give this end time false prophet SUPER-miraculous power. **The miracles will not just be illusions, but REAL.** Now notice who are the ones who get deceived:

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

"The coming of *the lawless* one is according to **the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,** 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, **BECAUSE they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.**"

NOTICE who are the ones deceived: they are those who don't "receive the LOVE of the TRUTH, that they might be saved." Some people don't care if what they're hearing is 100% true or not, and don't inquire, don't dig – and can be fooled.

So KNOW God's word. Inside and out. Read and hear God's word often. KNOW what it says about the Beast and False Prophet. I don't know when

they'll appear, *maybe* within the next 10 years – but do your own groundwork so you're not deceived. But whenever they show up, you BE ready. Read Revelation 12-18 many times. Read Revelation 2-3 about God's church – many times. Know the TRUTH about issues. TEST everything.

It does appear the end-time Lukewarm church will have to go through fiery trials (**Revelation 3:14-22**) to wake them up and bring them to zeal with God. It's called being "refined in the fire".

BE in God's word every single day. If you're not in that habit now, change it, now, while you have time. Don't just listen to sermons or studies – but you, you yourself, get into the Bible yourself. It's our daily bread (Deut 8:3) that sustains us.

SO we'll know – when the end time false prophet calls down fire from heaven—that God told us ahead of time that that would happen, and so we're not fooled, as impressive as it looks! (Recount the other examples of fire from heaven). This coming duo of political leader and false prophet will somehow be able to win over people's hearts and minds.

My friend Dave in FL wondered out loud – “what if the Beast and False Prophet gain our confidence by being conservative, and re-establish the rule of law again, and bring peace to the world?”

Good point. That's not what we're expecting. But God's word calls him the man of sin, the man of lawlessness (**2 Thess 2:3-4**) so no matter what he says, we have to know *his goal is a world where HE is god*, where God's laws are despised! And we're not fooled. He will kill all believers he can!

Remember God's 2 Witnesses (Revelation 11:1-5) are not well liked. Their miracles pattern after Moses and Elijah. They are calling down plagues, droughts, problems on the world. They have fire that consumes their enemies. **But the FALSE prophet will LOOK like a LAMB but speaks the words of the Dragon (Revelation 13:11).** The world likes him, trusts him, and he has amazing signs and wonders to be convincing (Go back and read Rev. 13 again on your own.)

Jesus answered each of Satan's temptations with God's word. He didn't get into a conversation with evil and we shouldn't either. He just body-slammed Satan with God's clear words (See **Matthew 4:1-11**). We win when we use God's word to great effect!

So far, **Pt 1 – ASK to be immersed in God's spirit**; to be filled by God's presence. **Pt 2 – Listen for God's voice, with full focused attention.** He WILL speak to you if you TUNE IN. **3 – KNOW HIS WORD**, which can set us free. This means much more Bible study than most of you are doing.

4. OBEY GOD'S WORD. DO God's word. It's not enough to KNOW God's word or hear Messiah's voice. We have to OBEY Him. This is harder to do than it sounds. Acts 5:32.

Eve knew the truth. She perfectly explained the truth about God's prohibition on the one tree. But in her case, it didn't keep her free. WHY? Because she didn't OBEY the truth she knew. She didn't DO the truth she knew – so she ended up being deceived.

Besides Satan's deceptions, WE deceive OURSELVES when we don't obey what we know is God's truth, God's way, and God's laws.

James 1:22

"But be **doers** of the word, and not hearers only, **DECEIVING yourselves.**"

The CJB version

"Don't DECEIVE yourselves BY only hearing what the Word says, but DO it!"

Eve heard and knew God's word but didn't obey it. So she ended up deceived. Strong warning for us all! Adam was even worse. He knew God's word but KNOWINGLY still took of the forbidden tree.

WE also risk coming out of God's will for us when we choose not to obey. We also open the door wide open to deception. All the Bible knowledge in the world won't help us in hard times if we are not applying what the Book says.

Jeremiah 17:9

**"The heart is DECEITFUL above all things,
And desperately wicked; Who can know it?"**

But WE have two natures or 2 "hearts" now – God's new nature and his new heart he gives us, a heart that loves God and wants to do good. Our NEW heart is NOT "deceitful above all things and desperately wicked." Understand that. The old carnal heart is the deceitful heart. But until we are changed to spirit, we do still have the old carnal heart alongside the new heart

from God. If we listen to our old heart – we're listening to "the deceitful old you", the carnal heart, and you will be deceived – by your own old heart!

When we're tempted to sin, IF we JUSTIFY doing the sin – it's the old heart speaking and we're listening to the deceitfully wicked old heart. WE need to answer back with God's word and body-slam our old heart urging us on to sin as our old heart says, "It's OK because..." If you and I give in to the self-justification of sin going on, we are deceiving ourselves.

TO avoid deception, we must tune in to the NEW righteous, clean heart God has now put inside us – led by God's spirit and His word. The old heart/nature is still there so there's a battle as Galatians 5:16-18 says. The more we cave in to the old heart, the more deceived we become.

Examples: "It's OK", our old wicked heart says, "to break the sabbath in this instance", or to tell a small lie, or flirt with sexual sin, or look at porn or movies not in tune with God, or drink more than we should – if at all, or to take something not belonging to us – like God's tithe and offerings, or to be unkind to our wife, instead of loving her like Christ does his church.

We justify the sin – thus deceiving ourselves. Or we let the lust of the eyes and flesh, and the pride of life overcome us – as Eve did. She saw the tree and its fruit was beautiful, good for food – tasty – and it could give them wisdom to know right from wrong... and deceived herself. Genesis 3.

Note also that Eve was allowed to be deceived –without God intervening – because God gives us all free moral agency, free choice. But when we refuse God's will for us, because of free choice, even God himself postpones or alters his will. God's perfect will is not always done right away (More on the video). Why else would we have to pray "Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" if God's will is always done. It's not. By his own rules. Put "God's will" in the Search bar and check out my blog on it. Here are a couple examples of that:

Mark 6:1-6—even Yeshua could not do any miracles in Nazareth, except a couple, because of THEIR unbelief.

Contrast God's will for Jerusalem – and the people's will. It's tragic.

Luke 13:34

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often **I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing!**"

One more for bonus:

Luke 7:29-30

“And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers **rejected the will of God** for themselves, not having been baptized by him.”

God's will was for the Pharisees to be baptized by John, but they rejected John and his baptism. And God allowed it, even though it was a rejection of him and his will. In the end, much later, God's will finally was done, as many Pharisees were converted and one of them – we know him as Paul – wrote most of the New Testament. Hallelujah!

But how tragic when we reject God's will for us. It's God honoring their free choice, their free will. He does the same for you and me. Now that's scary, that we're missing out on what God would want for us, and do for us, if we just would obey and submit to HIS will. So let's get in harmony with God's will.

5. Ask GOD TO PROTECT YOU FROM BEING DECEIVED by the evil one.

Part of the Lord's Prayer – Matthew 6:13 – “Deliver us from evil” – or “the evil one”

A wonderful lady friend in Arizona sent me this verse for this sermon along with other excellent points:

2 Thes. 3:3 NIV

“But the Lord is faithful, who will strengthen you AND PROTECT YOU from the EVIL ONE”

That's IF we are seeking him, being filled with him, asking him to direct us – and then obeying him—if those are being done, God WILL protect us.

In Yeshua's priestly prayer of John 17 after the Last Supper, he says:

John 17:15

“I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but **that You should keep them from the evil one.**”

I also like to pray and ask Jesus directly to pray for ME – as he did Peter – when SATAN had asked for him, to sift him like wheat.

Luke 22:31-32

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, **Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat.**

But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."

This sister in AZ also believed like Mike in OR – that the key is John 10:27 – to HEAR the Shepherd's voice. Here's what she said:

"The key of course, to not being deceived, is our relationship with our Heavenly Father and His son Yeshua, our Savior & King. In John 10, Jesus said "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." But if we don't listen, we won't hear.

"We need to immerse ourselves in God's word every day in scripture & prayer to hear God's leading (Prov. 15: 31-33). If we do that and are connected to God - I mean really connected in a close personal relationship - I don't see how being deceived would be possible. In so many scriptures, God tells us to be strong & courageous. We can't be as strong & courageous as we might have to be, without his help. So, we need to very be mindful of not neglecting our calling and losing that connection.

"At one time I was genuinely concerned about the mark of the beast - that it might not be obvious, or we (God's people) might be deceived or forced against our will into accepting it. I have come to believe that won't be the case - **I think now it will be a knowing and deliberate decision on our part to accept it or reject it. God's true elect won't come under the Beast system ... but it will be so deceptive, we'll have to be totally on our guard."**

I agree. I love it when you guys out there help me with these sermon topics. It would be hard to be positive and courageous if we fear we'll be deceived unknowingly. If we stay close to Yeshua and God's presence in us, we have nothing to fear. We won't be deceived.

Summary:

Be sure you are FILLED with God's spirit and following God's lead. Be sure you listen for God's voice. Be sure you know God's word and will *obey* God's word. And be sure you pray for protection from Satan and his deception.

So those are the 5 points to avoid deception, but even then – as we know and see what's happening, you know what?

No matter what: we must not fear persecution or even death for standing firm as we hear, trust, and obey God's voice and God's will for us.

It's getting serious now already. You and I may be called to have the honor to be persecuted and even martyred for His name's sake. Christians are already being tortured, beaten, hacked to death, and beheaded in many parts of the world for believing in Jesus instead of Islam. I get gruesome reports of what's happening in Nigeria,

There may be a **“place of safety” for some zealous believers** whom God knows! -- but it won't be for all the Elect. There are simply too many scriptures that show us clearly --not everyone will be spared going through the Great Tribulation's martyrdom. There are so many scriptures **about end-time martyrs** – that means people who DIE for the love of the truth. (Daniel 7:21, 25-27 – the saints are GIVEN into his hand... also Revelation 6:9-11; 13:15; Revelation 17:6; 18:24; 20:4).

But in the end, when Yeshua – Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God, returns – guess what?

Revelation 19:20

“Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image.

These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.”

Justice is served!

We hope, and believe, God's zealous children will be protected from the worst.

So we can be confident that if we abide close to God, have, and are led by His spirit, tune in to his voice, study his word zealously and obey him by God's power and Christ in us – then we won't be deceived. And I believe, those zealous believers will highly likely be spared the horrors of the Great Tribulation and have a place of safety from God for the final “time, times and half a time”, or 3-1/2 years (**Revelation 12:13-16; Revelation 3:8-11**).

Revelation 3:10-11

“Because you have kept My command to persevere, I also will keep you from the hour of trial which shall come upon the whole world, to test those who dwell on the earth. 11 Behold, I am coming quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown.”

But if we aren't that close to God, I think most of those will – in the end, not be deceived but will have to go through severe hard times of persecution,

imprisonment, torture, and even martyrdom to wake them up. These seem to me to be the end-time “Laodicean” type brethren – lukewarm, thinking they’re fine spiritually and “in need of nothing” (**Revelation 3:20; 12:17; Daniel 7:21-25; 8:24-25; 12:1.**) Jesus warns they will have to go through the refining process of gold refined in the fire. *And yes, many will die – but their spirit will be saved for eternal life. I believe it’s better for those who are zealous for God.*

Revelation 3:14-20

"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: 15 "**I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot.** I could wish you were cold or hot. 16 So then, because you are **lukewarm**, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.

17 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 –

18 **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.

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

20 **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."

CLOSING PRAYER.

HOLY SPIRIT – ask for more.

HEAR his VOICE, tuned in.

KNOW his WORD – it’s our daily DELIGHT

Obey HIS WORD – quit compromising with your commands

Pray for protection from Satan and lukewarmness