

Laodicea – A Lukewarm Church

- *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. Rev 3:15-21*
- Are we Hot? Cold? Lukewarm? Problem / Solution?

The Progression

- From Hot ... to Hotter ... More zeal, diligence, virtue, motivation, and enthusiasm.
- From Hot ... to Lukewarm ... to Cold
- *Therefore we must **give the more earnest heed** to the things we have heard, **lest we drift away**. 2 For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, 3 how shall we escape if we **neglect** so great a salvation, Heb 2:1-3*
- If we are drifting and/or neglecting we need to buy eye salve ...
- Where and How do we buy spiritual eye salve?

Buying Eye Salve Through Prayer

- *making mention of you in my prayers: 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your heart being enlightened; that you may know** what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power Eph. 1:16-19*
- The spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowledge
- Eyes of your heart enlightened ...
- So you can know (eido / video) can see / visualize

Buying Eye Salve Through Faith

- *So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord. **7 For we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 We are confident**, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord. 9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.*

2Cor 5:6-10

- *Faith comes by hearing ... the word of God*
- *As we read the word of God and believe it we begin to see the unseen.*

Buying Eye Salve Through Faith

- *while **we do not look at the things which are seen**, but at **the things which are not seen**. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2Cor. 4:18*
- The “we” are all those who have purchased the eye salve. Are we the “we?”
- As we live our lives where are eyes?
- The eyes of our hearts enlightened to know and see
- All that we can see here is temporary.
- Only the things we see through the eyes of faith are eternal.

Faith Brings Sight to the Unseen

- *Now faith is the substance (assurance) of things hoped for, **the evidence (conviction) of things not seen.** ... 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. Heb 11:1-3*
- This is the full potential of faith.
- Faith is like our 6th sense. It brings far more truth into our hearts than everything else put together.
- There is no way to see eternal spiritual realities without faith.

What Can We See with Eye Salve

- *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but **having seen them afar off were assured of them**, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16*
- The potential to become lukewarm is still here.

Faith & Reckoning

- For I **reckon** that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed to us-ward. Rom 8:18
- “**logizomai (logic)**... [a favorite word with Paul, being used some 27 times in his Epp., and only four times in the rest of the N.T.]
- 1. ...to **reckon, count, compute, calculate,**
- 2. ... **reckon inwardly, weigh the reasons, to deliberate meditate**
- 3. **by reckoning up all the reasons to gather or infer;** (Thayer, p. 379; 3049)
- If we haven't / Don't use logic and deduction we are blind and can't see these things.

Many Realities Beyond Our Sight

- *16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, **open his eyes that he may see.**" Then **the Lord opened the eyes of the young man**, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. 2Kgs 6:16-17*
- This is what faith can do for us.
- I can see what he saw because he saw it and I believe it...
- Thus the eyes of our heart take over and bring conviction and assurance

Balaam's Eyes were Opened

- *Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face. Num 22:31-32*
- *"The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, The utterance of **the man whose eyes are opened**, 4 The utterance of him who hears the words of God, Who sees the vision of the Almighty, **Who falls down, with eyes wide open:** Num 24:3-4*
- Why did God reveal this? So we could "see" it.
- When we see what Balaam saw, our eyes will also be opened.
- Never forget!!! Balaam was blinded again by greed.

As Hope Dawns – We Too See!

- *For I reckon that **the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.** 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, **eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.** 24 For we were saved in this hope, but **hope that is seen is not hope**; for why does one still hope for what he sees? 25 But **if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.** Rom 8:18-19; 23-25*

Seeing the Unseen a Logical Progression

- *while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.*
- We have to change our focus using the logic of our mind to see the things above:
- *If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. Col 3:1-4*

The Unseen Things Above

- *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself. Phil 3:20-21*
- If we can't see this with the eyes of our heart then it doesn't mean anything – we have no faith.

What Eyes?

- *Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 **fixing our eyes on Jesus**, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Heb 12:1-2*
- How do we fix our eyes on Jesus?
- We use eye salve to open the eyes of our heart!

Activating the Eyes of our Heart

- *This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, **but you shall meditate in it day and night,** Josh 1:8*
- *But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law **he meditates day and night.** Ps 1:1-2*
- *Let the words of my mouth and **the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight,** Ps 19:14*
- ***May my meditation be sweet to Him;** Ps 104:34*
- ***I will meditate on Your precepts, And contemplate Your ways.** 97 Oh, how I love Your law! It is **my meditation all the day.** 99 I have more understanding than all my teachers, For **Your testimonies are my meditation.** Ps 119:15, 97, 99*

Eyesalve

- Walking by faith and not by sight
- Faith is the evidence of things not seen
- Not receiving, but seeing them afar off embraced them.
- We Reckon (logic)
- We know (video)
- We Set our mind on things above
- We Fix our eyes on Jesus.