



July 19th- Hugh Barlett

Revelation 3:14–22 “And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: ‘The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation. ¹⁵ “ ‘I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth. ¹⁷ For you say, “I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing,” not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, so that you may see. ¹⁹ Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so 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 eat with him, and he with me. ²¹ The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. ²² He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’ ”

Let your desperate needs lead us to a deep relationship with Jesus

Christ the Amen, the fulfiller of all of God’s promises; the Faithful & true witness, the one who perfectly obeyed God even unto death; and the beginning of God’s creation, the first born from the dead, the author of the new creation, longs for us to become passionate in our relationship with Him.

Jesus sees our desperate needs beneath our self-sufficiency

Jesus offers His grace in ways we can get

Jesus seeks us to share life with us

Jesus’ victory invites us to rest & rule over life

How did Christ become the Amen—the finish or completion of all our prayers?

How is Christ the first born of the new creation (Colossians 1:18); in Christ, we are a new creation, (2 Corinthians 5:17); and He who made us the first fruits of all creatures (James 1:17)? To what is this referring?

How is it both encouraging and sobering to know that Jesus knows our works?

What is the attitude of the Laodicean church?

How is it helpful for us to see the depth of our need in verse 17?



How does Christ invite the church into relationship?

How does Jesus move us from complacency to conquering?



July 12 – CJ Norton

Matthew 9:35-38

35 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. **36** When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **37** Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; **38** therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

The Heart of the Harvest

Christ compassionately cares for humanity in their desperate condition and labors to gather them to Himself. What drives Jesus in this ministry/mission:

- (1) Jesus’ Eyes See Within Us
- (2) Jesus’ Heart Stirs for Us
- (3) Jesus’ Hands Strive to Gather Us

Sermon Questions:

- Why is the heart of Jesus’ mission important to understand in addition to the “how” and “what” of his mission?
- What deep needs have you seen in the people around you? (Friends, family neighborhood, workplace, school, etc.). How do we stay attuned to the spiritual condition of those living around us?
- What answers do you see from the “World” for people’s deepest needs?
- What are barriers to feeling compassion when you see others’ needs?
- What are some of the “costs” you might incur when moving toward someone in need?
- How does Christ’s presence and love empower and encourage you to join in his mission?