

Lord GOD, seeing thou doest all these things” (Eze. 16:30). Solomon taught to “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Prov. 4:23). Are you being extra careful to watch what is allowed to enter your heart? What is allowed in may very well lead to weakness.

3) LUKEWARMNESS GENERATES A DIVIDED HEART. Hosea exclaimed, “*Their heart is divided; now shall they be found faulty*” (Hos. 10:2). A divided dedication strives to please God at times, but please self too. This is why James orated, “*A double minded man is unstable in all his ways*” (Jam. 1:8). We must be giving our all to God, all of the time. Our souls are too valuable, and eternity is too long not to!

4) LUKEWARMNESS LEADS TO LAZINESS. Of the Lord’s people Haggai wrote, “*This people say, The time is not come, the time that the LORD’S house should be built*” (Hag. 1:2). Notice these folks knew what needed to be done, but lacked the gumption and initiative to do it! This attitude is somewhat prevalent among God’s people today. We must be as the busy ants (Prov. 6:6-11), always progressing forward, getting the work done before it is too late. Are you?

5) LUKEWARMNESS PRODUCES DISPIRITED SERVICE. Read Rev. 2:1-3 and take notice of the good things being done. Yet, Jesus said to them, “*I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love*” (Rev. 2:4). It might be said they were “going through the motions,” actually and mechanically doing the expected things, but their heart was nowhere to be found. Such a sad state of affairs! Instead of carrying on with this attitude, be as the Thessalonians, whose “*faith*” and “*charity*” was abounding (II Thess. 1:3).

FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST ♦ Vincennes, Indiana
Meeting at Holiday Inn Express in Vincennes, Indiana
www.firstcitychurchofchrist.com

THE VINCENNES VOICE

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

**A teaching bulletin produced and provided by
FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST**

“LUKE-WARMNESS”

by Larry R. Ping II

The idea of being “lukewarm” is to be “moderately warm or tepid,” or “having or showing little ardor, zeal or enthusiasm.” It is to be indifferent and apathetic. The reader should know this is a major issue facing the Lord’s people today! Consider some thoughts concerning lukewarmness from God and His Word.

1) LUKEWARMNESS BRINGS WITH IT AN UNWILLINGNESS TO FIGHT FOR THE TRUTH. Ever wonder why Jeremiah is referred to as the “weeping prophet?” Perhaps because he had the sad responsibility to write about God’s people who were “*not valiant for the truth upon the earth*” (Jer. 9:3). They refused to take a stand for or defend God’s Word. Jude 3 reminds us we “*should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.*” Let us never grow so indifferent or weary we are unwilling to protect and defend God’s Word. Again, of God’s people, Ezekiel penned, “*Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither gone up into the gaps, neither made up the hedge for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD*” (Eze. 13:5). Let us fight for and defend God. Let us fight for and defend Jesus. Let us defend The Word of God!

2) LUKEWARMNESS BRINGS ABOUT A WEAK HEART. Ezekiel remarks, “*How weak is thine heart, saith the*

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FEBRUARY 18, 2024

BIBLE READING QUESTIONS

Read Lamentations 1:1-9.

Answer the following questions based upon your reading.

- 1) According to Lamentations 1:1, what was sitting solitary?

- 2) "...how is she become as a _____! she that was _____ among the nations, and _____ among the provinces, how is she become _____" (Lam. 1:1).
- 3) How have her ("the city") friends treated her (Lam. 1:2)?

- 4) "_____ is gone into _____ because of affliction, and because of great _____: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no _____: all her persecutors overtook her between the straits" (Lam. 1:3).
- 5) Why did the Lord afflict the people (Lam. 1:5)?

- 6) "Jerusalem hath grievously _____; therefore she is _____: all that honoured her _____ her, because they have seen her _____: yea, she sigheth, and turneth _____" (Lam. 1:8).
- 7) What several things are said about her ("the city") in Lamentations 1:9?

TOPIC OF THE WEEK: PERSECUTION **FOR THE DAYS OF FEB. 19 - FEB. 23, 2024**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Persecution: The act or practice of persecuting on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or beliefs that differ from those of the persecutor.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Old Testament passages dealing with persecution
Dte. 30:7; Psa. 7:1-2; Jer. 17:14-18; Psa. 119:84-85;

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2024

New Testament passages dealing with persecution
Matt. 5:10-12; Mk. 4:16-17; II Cor. 4:8-10; II Tim. 3:11-12

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2024

Jeremiah's persecution

Jer. 20:1-2; 26:11; 36:23; 38:6; 43:2

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2024

Application: Some persecution will come the way of a faithful; the faithful must remember God is with them.

FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Meeting at Holiday Inn Express
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Sunday Bible Study - 10:00 am
Sunday Worship Services - 11:00 am & 3:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 pm

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