

Love's Reproof

Revelation 3:14-22

I. What is different about this seventh and final letter from the other six?

a.

b.

c.

II. An apologetics moment: What does it mean that Jesus calls Himself, "The beginning of God's creation?"

a.

b.

c.

d.

III. What are the 3 Laodicean conditions that Jesus calls out?

a.

b.

c.

IV. How does Jesus express His steadfast and tender goodwill toward the Laodicean believers, even after His harsh rebuke?

a.

b.

V. What is the enormous promise the faithful can expect?

a.

Questions for contemplation:

1. What parallels can you find in the OT of this manner of rebuke?
2. What NT passages might shed light on the things revealed in this passage about Jesus? About salvation?
3. While many of us can relate to the suffering of churches like Smyrna and Philadelphia, are there ways that our comfort, wealth, and positive self-appraisal, while not evil things in themselves, might be barriers to our living out lives that Christ would be pleased with?
4. What is significant in the fact that all 7 churches likely read all 7 letters?
5. How do the facts that this letter is to be received by the churches, and the Gospel is true, and that Jesus loved the Laodiceans play into how we understand this letter?