



<sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

-----  
[Visit our website here!](#)

misused, out of context, fear-mongering, and religiously abused passages in the Bible, **Revelation 3:15-16**.

We read **Revelation 3:15-16** as it is written and said "wait a minute, this sounds really, really, bad. What the heck is Jesus taking about?"

We said that doomsday preachers, self-righteous Christians, and even Pastors in some Churches, use this passage to try to scare believers into thinking that they may not have done enough good deeds to be saved and there may be a possibility they will be "**spit out**" of God's mouth and at the last minute, lose their salvation on Judgement day.

This all seems to be pretty serious from first reading but we found that by looking closer at Jesus' words, in context, (as Inigo Montoya would say), It does not mean what you think it means.

The first thing we noticed is that according to **John 3:16 and Romans 10:9**, we need only to **Believe** to be saved. Plus, according to what we know about God's character, He would certainly never spit us out of His mouth on judgement day. It goes completely against everything Jesus taught.

Next, being Hot or Cold could not mean being "hot" or "cold" for God or even 'hot' or 'cold' in our faith. Jesus says "**I wish you were either one or the other!**". In this passage, 'hot' and 'cold' must both be good. Otherwise why would Jesus wish we were one **OR** the other? Jesus' issue was with being "Lukewarm".

The real message in this passage is not about salvation but one of purpose. Jesus was talking to the Church in Laodicea about their lack of purpose.

We said to think about how nice a hot cup of coffee or hot chocolate is on a cold winter night or how refreshing a cold drink is on a hot summer day. In both cases, hot or cold are good and useful at the right time but replacing either with a "Lukewarm" drink serves no purpose. As a matter of fact, if you were expecting one or the other and got lukewarm instead, you may even **spit it out of your mouth**.

So why make it so confusing with using "lukewarm" instead of just talking about their lack of purpose?

We then looked at the Church that Jesus was talking to in Laodicea for an answer. The city was rich and had everything they could possibly need except for

one thing, a fresh supply of water.

They had to depend on getting their water from two neighboring towns via aqueducts. One town was known for its healing 'hot' springs and the other was known for its refreshing 'cold' mountain streams.

By the time the water made it to Laodicea it was no longer 'hot' or 'cold'. It was lukewarm and disgusting. It served no purpose and if you drank it, you may spit it out of your mouth.

Nobody knew better how disgusting and completely useless lukewarm was than the city of Laodicea. In context, Jesus' metaphor would be completely understood. Hot or Cold each had a purpose but lukewarm was just useless.

We then looked at why Jesus chose this message for this particular Church in Laodicea.

This Church had everything that they needed (except fresh water) and was very prideful that they didn't need anything from anyone and maybe even believed that they didn't even need a Savior. They still had the idea that they could be saved by their own good works and were clearly self-righteous in their actions and in their teaching of others.

When Jesus told them that He "**knows their deeds**", He was saying that He knows what they've been doing and what they've been teaching and just like the lukewarm water, they were useless as a Church. Jesus was telling them that while they may be very rich and prideful in material things, they are very poor in spirit and Jesus had no use for them as a Church.

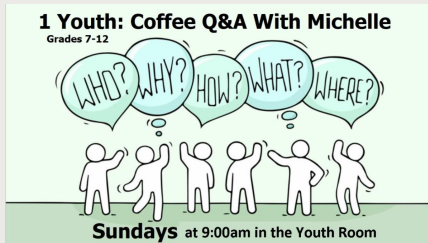
We saw this reading on in **Revelation 3:17-18**. But, we also noticed in **verse 18**, that Jesus provides the Church with encouragement and even provides them with how they can become rich in spirit.

So, after looking at what Jesus was saying, in the proper context, it turns out that this typically "scary" passage isn't about losing our salvation due to not doing enough "good deeds" at all. But is instead a rebuke for their un-Gospel-like beliefs and teaching. Jesus even ends up providing them with a way out.

So, by knowing God's character and by studying the actual context of the passage we see that this perceived message of darkness and despair is actually a message of hope and encouragement to follow Jesus' teachings and to live in the spirit teaching the

good news of the Gospel to all.

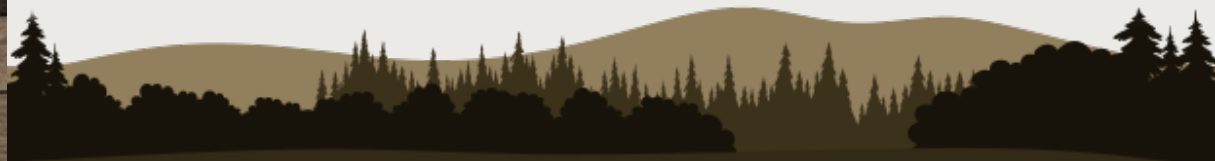
Just as we should expect, it's really no different than everything else Jesus teaches us.



## Pre-Service Coffee Q&A

Sundays at 9:00am

Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, starting at 9:00am, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general.



Living Word Ahwatukee  
Phone: (480) 584-6116  
Email: [chris@1youthministry.com](mailto:chris@1youthministry.com)  
Website: [www.1youthministry.org](http://www.1youthministry.org)

Connect with us



1 Youth Ministry | 14647 S. 50th Street, Suite 16, Phoenix, AZ 85044

[Unsubscribe chris@conceptsncrations.com](mailto:chris@conceptsncrations.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [chris@1youthministry.com](mailto:chris@1youthministry.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!