

Christ Our Righteousness – Laodicean Perspective

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Jesus is so wonderful, He is so precious, He is everything, and we must go back and make sure He dwells in our hearts and that we have not walked off and left Him. The illness of the church is the absence of Jesus. But we may literally possess Him, for God so loved the world He gave Him to us. “But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” John 1:12. “He that hath the Son hath life.” 1 John 5:11,12. You may have Him. God so loved the world that He did not just give us power and health and blessings of all types. He gave us of Himself in the person of Jesus. You may have Him, for God has given Him to you. If you merely accept the material things He has, He will say as a wealthy man once said to me, “You love my money but you do not love me.” *Many love Jesus’ power but they do not love Jesus.* They want His power to heal them or to give them all manner of



things, but they do not love Him. They want Him to bring peace into the home and help them, and they love His help, but they do not want Him to stay. They want His help for more money and more education and more this and more that, but they do not want Jesus.

Jesus says we may have Him. Will you receive Him? Will you embrace Him and fall in love with Him so that you will never let Him go? Do you want Him, or do you want what He has and what He is

able to do for you?

It is like a man whose plumbing gets stopped up in the middle of the night, so he calls a good friend and asks for his help. His friend goes over and fixes the plumbing, and the next day the man sees the plumber on the street and does not even say hello

to him or thank him. We do that to Jesus. In my desperations and emergencies, I cry out for God to help me. Fix my emotions, fix my heart, fix my family, fix my job. And He asks, “When are we going to be friends so that we will never part? When will you want Me and not just My help?”

The Bible says, “Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near.” Isaiah 55:6. He has been knocking a long time, and Laodicea has said, “Don’t bother us, we are doing fine.” God wants us to see that this is a strange kind of deception, this idea that Christians do not need Christ. Has a person truly discovered what Christianity is all about if they think they can get along without Jesus? Jesus has watched us going along with all our worldly ideas of success, but knowing that we have not seen Him. And all the time He is knocking because He wants to come in and be with us. What a different church, a different home, a different school or hospital we will see when Jesus comes in and abides in the hearts of our people.

Some will take all this as violent criticism and go away with a dismal, hopeless attitude. The Lord does not want that. He is asking, “How can you get along without Me? How can you leave Me outside your heart and then sing, ‘Jesus is all the world to me’? How can you call this Christianity when you do not possess Me? How can you talk about Me and not know Me?” He wants to gather us unto Himself and give us life eternal. The most pathetic person I can think of is a Christian who is without Jesus. ¹

¹ <https://pastorbillehman.org/audio-sermons/christ-our-righteousness/>

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