

# Jesus is Knocking at our Doors

Several years ago we were guests of the President of Zambia as we traveled through that beautiful country. One of the things we experienced was a soft knock on the door. We were treated with such respect and dignity that they never wanted us to wait for transportation in the lobby of the hotel, or for a table to be set up for a group of us. Many times for about a week and a half, we were told, “We’ll come for you and knock on the door.” Sometimes the knock was expected. Sometimes it was not, but out of respect for us, it was always soft.

We found we had to listen for the knock to hear it. If the television was on, or even if we were talking, we would miss this signal until we learned how to always be listening.

This experience has made Revelation 3:20 truly come alive for us for the first time. Jesus said, “Behold I stand at the door and knock...”

In the past, we have heard this verse used often as a call for salvation, and it has made a wonderful picture to show how much Jesus desires to come into the heart and lives of every unbeliever. But now, we wonder if we have missed its true meaning – its meaning for us. Jesus was speaking to the church of Laodicia – the lukewarm church – when He spoke these words. He wasn’t speaking to the lost.

*And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, These things*

*says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God:*

*I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing' - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked -*

*I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.*

*“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me” (Revelation 3:14-22).*

What a beautiful picture! Jesus is still saying to the church today, “I’m knocking at your door; I want intimate time with you.” But Jesus isn’t demanding. He isn’t banging on the door.

How often have we have acted like a church of “fast-food” Christians? We have run in to order what we needed, and then rushed out and on through our day. Have we have run through our programs and never taken

time to hear from God? Have we truly taken time to come in and dine with Him – to sit with Him – to spend time with Him?

What does it mean to buy from Him *gold refined in the fire*? How can we make a purchase from God? It is only by giving Him our lives. It’s the time in the fire, the times of testing, the times of persecutions, that burn out the impurities. Gold also speaks of the glory of God, and as we spend time with Him, His glory will come upon us!

The white garments speak of overcoming. Earlier in this same chapter of Revelation we read, “He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels” (3:5).

The eye salve speaks of the soothing oil of the Holy Spirit. David wrote, *Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law* (Psalms 119:18).

A.L. and I have received a new challenge to be listening for the soft knock on the door, not to call us in the natural, for that time is past, but to be listening to the soft knock of God at the door of our heart to call us to those special times with Him.