

THE TRUE WITNESS DECLARES * =
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"TO THOSE WHO ARE INDIFFERENT AT THIS TIME ...

'BECAUSE thou art Lukewarm... I will =

SPEW THEE OUT OF MY MOUTH." 6T:408.

THE LAODICEAN CHURCH

IS

THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH.

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FOREWORD:

In his studies in the Book of the Revelations = J.C.Larson noticed the Messages sent "...unto the seven Churches" - Rev.1:11 - although sent TO the seven Churches - nevertheless were addressed TO the "ANGEL" of each and every "CHURCH" = by Him who holds the seven "STARS" in His right hand. Rev.2:1.

Puzzling just what this could mean, Brother Larson noticed this: "The MYSTERY of the seven STARS which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven GOLDEN CANDLESTICKS. The seven STARS are the ANGELS of the seven CHURCHES: and the seven CANDLESTICKS which thou sawest are the seven CHURCHES." Rev.1:20.

It is evident that STARS or ANGELS OF the Church, are not THE CHURCH! For the first Warning or Threat to the first "ANGEL of the Church of EPHESUS." Rev.2:1 =
"THOU ART FALLEN... REPENT...
Or else I will come unto thee quickly,
And will remove thy CANDLESTICK out of his place,
Except thou REPENT." Rev.2:5.

The Message TO (not FROM!) the ANGEL - STAR - MINISTER of the Church, if the STAR-MINISTER of the Church does not "REPENT" for leaving his first Love - God will remove the CANDLESTICK-CHURCH "OUT" from the Control or Influence of the ANGEL-STAR-MINISTRY.

"I am instructed to say that these words are applicable to Seventh-day Adventist churches in their present condition." RH A4:385. Feb.25,1902. [First church Ephesus Warning together with the Threat of the Doom and Curse of the barren Fig-Tree. "Except thou Repent."]

"These things saith He that holdeth the seven STARS in His right hand." These words are spoken to the TEACHERS in the Church... MINISTERS... He fills them with LIGHT. He guides and directs their movements. If He did not do this, they would become FALLEN STARS." AA 586.

And in the last hour His promise is to the "OPEN DOOR" PHILADELPHIAN believers, who will be kept in the "HOOR of TEMPTATION-" AA 588. [Which is in the Time of the almost overmastering Miracles of Satan. GC 560.]

As for Laodicea, let us turn to the Pen of Ellen G. White as compiled by J.C.Larson. †(The Publishers.)†

"AND TO THE ANGEL (MINISTRY) OF THE CHURCH OF LAODICEA="

"The message to the church of the Laodiceans is a startling denunciation, and is applicable to the people of God at the present time.

"And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write: These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth...

"The Lord here shows us that the message to be borne to His people by ministers whom He has called to warn the people is not a peace-and-safety message. It is not merely theoretical, but practical in every particular. The people of God are represented in the message to the Laodiceans as in a position of carnal security. They are at ease, believing themselves to be in an exalted position of spiritual attainments. "Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

"What greater deception can come upon human minds than a confidence that they are right, when they are all wrong." Vol.3, pp. 252,253. 1873.

"The Laodicean message applies to the people of God who profess to believe present truth. The greater part are lukewarm professors, having a name, but no zeal... are found aiding the enemy to weaken and discourage those whom God is using to build up the work. The term "lukewarm" is applicable to this class...

"The only hope for the Laodiceans is a clear view of their standing before God, a knowledge of the nature of their disease... He loathes the indifference of this class." Vol.4, p.87. 1876.

"WHEN THE THIRD ANGEL'S MESSAGE IS PREACHED AS IT SHOULD BE..." [the church represented by the foolish virgins in Matt. 25 will also be represented as the Laodicean church.]

"I am often referred to the parable of the ten virgins, five of whom were wise, and five foolish. This parable has been and will be fulfilled to the very letter, for it has a special application to this time, and, like the third angel's message, has been fulfilled and will continue to be present truth until the close of time.

"In the parable, the ten virgins had lamps, but only five of them had the saving oil with which to keep their lamps burning. This represents the condition of the church. The wise and the foolish have their Bibles, and are provided with all the means of grace; but many do not appreciate the fact that they must have the heavenly unction...

"Satan uses those who claim to believe the truth, but whose light has become darkness, as his mediums to utter his falsehoods and transmit his darkness. They are foolish virgins indeed, choosing darkness rather than light, and dishonoring God. The character we cultivate, the attitude we assume to-day, is fixing our future destiny...

"Are we wise virgins, or must we be classed among the foolish? This is the question we are deciding to-day by our character and attitude...

"The state of the Church represented by the foolish virgins, is also spoken of as the Laodicean state. The True Witness declares... "I will spew thee out of my mouth."...

"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne..." RH A2:419,420. Aug.19,1890. TM 130.
By Mrs. E.G.White.

QUESTION = Were not all the foolish virgins lost? Will not the Laodicean Church also be spewed out? The Laodicean Church, the foolish virgin church, and the Seventh-day Adventist Church are represented in the future as one and the same. The Lord has told us that

"To those who are indifferent at this time Christ's warning is: 'Because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of My mouth.' Rev. 3:16. The figure of spewing out of His mouth means

THAT HE CANNOT offer up your prayers or your expressions of love to God.

HE CANNOT endorse your teaching of His word or your spiritual work in anywise.

HE CANNOT present your religious exercises with the request that grace be given you." Vol.6, p.408.

[PUBLISHER'S NOTE: Notice how many times we run into the word "INDIFFERENT" - this seems to be a primary SIN!]

"They seemed indifferent and careless. They were not resisting the darkness... The angels of God left these..."
EW 270. Vol. 1:180-2. -3-

The Lord has told us that = "Intensity is taking possession of every earthly element; and as a people who have had great light and wonderful knowledge, many of them are represented by the five sleeping virgins with their lamps, but no oil in their vessels, cold, senseless, with a feeble, wandering piety...

"To-day this sacrilegious work is being more than repeated. There will be messages borne; and those who have rejected the messages God has sent, will hear most startling declarations. The Holy Spirit will invest the announcement with a sanctity and solemnity which will appear terrible in the ears of those who have heard the pleadings of infinite love, and have not responded to the offers of pardon and forgiveness. Injured and insulted Deity will speak, proclaiming the sins that have been hidden. As the priests and rulers, full of indignation and terror, sought refuge in flight at the last scene of the cleansing of the temple, so will it be in the work for these last days. The woes that will be pronounced upon those that have had light from heaven, and yet did not heed it, they will feel, but will have no power to act.

"This is represented in the parable of the wise and foolish virgins. They cannot obtain a character from the wise virgins, and they have no oil of grace to discern the clear light or to accept it. They cannot light their lamps and join the procession that goes in to the marriage supper of the Lamb." Spec. Test. Series A Nos. 1 + 7, pp. 23, + 116. (See SPECIAL TM 116. Brisbin 32.)

"THE NAMES OF THE OBEDIENT, self-sacrificing, and faithful will be engraved upon the palms of His hands; they will not be spewed from His mouth, but be taken in His lips, and He will specially plead in their behalf before the Father. When the selfish and proud are forgotten, they will be remembered; their names will be immortalized." Vol. 3, p.251.

"THE TRUE WITNESS DECLARES that when you suppose you are really in a good condition of prosperity you are in need of everything... 'As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.'" But many will not receive the message that Heaven in mercy sends them. They cannot endure to be told of their neglect of duty and of their wrongs, their selfishness, their pride and love of the world... They are doing the work of Satan, but think they have a zeal for God.

"Some will not receive the testimony that God has given us to bear, flattering themselves that we may be deceived and that they may be right. They think that the people of God are not in need of plain dealing and of reproof, but that God is with them. These tempted ones, whose souls have ever been at war with the faithful reproving of sin, would cry: Speak unto us smooth things. What disposition would they make of the message of the True Witness to the Laodiceans? There can be no deception here. This message must be borne to a lukewarm church by God's servants. It must arouse His people from their security and dangerous deception in regard to their real standing before God. This testimony, if received, will arouse to action and to self-abasement and confession of sins. The True Witness says: 'I know they works, that thou art neither cold nor hot.'" And again, 'As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous, therefore, and repent.' Then comes the promise: 'Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.' [Singular = "The work of preparation is an individual work. We are not saved in groups... In that time of trial, every soul must stand for himself before God." GC 490,622.]

'To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with Me in My throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with My Father in His throne.'

"The people of God must see their wrongs and arouse to zealous repentance and a putting away of those sins which have brought them into such a deplorable condition of poverty, blindness, wretchedness, and fearful deception. I was shown that the pointed testimony must live in the church. This alone will answer to the message to the Laodiceans. Wrongs must be reproved, sin must be called sin, and iniquity must be met promptly and decidedly, and put away from us as a people...

"Those whom God has chosen for an important work have ever been received with distrust and suspicion. Anciently, when Elijah was sent with a message from God to the people, they did not heed the warning. They thought him unnecessarily severe. They even thought that he must have lost his senses because he denounced them, the favored people of God, as sinners and their crimes as so aggravated that the judgments of God would awaken against them. Satan and his host have ever been arrayed against those who bear the message of warn-

ing and who reprove sins. The unconsecrated will also be united with the adversary of souls to make the work of God's faithful servants as hard as possible." Vol. 3, pp. 257-261. 1873.

"BUT IF THE SINS OF THE PEOPLE are passed over by those in responsible positions, His frown will be upon them, and the people of God, as a body, will be held responsible for those sins. In His dealings with His people in the past the Lord shows the necessity of purifying the church from wrongs. One sinner may diffuse darkness that will exclude the light of God from the entire congregation. When the people realize that darkness is settling upon them, and they do not know the cause, they should seek God earnestly, in great humility and self-abasement, until the wrongs which grieve His Spirit are searched out and put away...

"If wrongs are apparent among His people, and if the servants of God pass on indifferent to them, they virtually sustain and justify the sinner, and are alike guilty and will just as surely receive the displeasure of God; for they will be made responsible for the sins of the guilty. In vision I have been pointed to many instances where the displeasure of God has been incurred by a neglect on the part of His servants to deal with the wrongs and sins existing among them. Those who have excused these wrongs have been thought by the people to be very amiable and lovely in disposition, simply because they shunned to discharge a plain Scriptural duty. The task was not agreeable to their feelings; therefore they avoided it.

"The spirit of hatred which has existed with some because the wrongs among God's people have been re-proved has brought blindness and a fearful deception upon their own souls, making it impossible for them to discriminate between right and wrong. They have put out their own spiritual eyesight. They may witness wrongs, but they do not feel as did Joshua and humble themselves because the danger of souls is felt by them.

"The true people of God, who have the spirit of the work of the Lord and the salvation of souls at heart, will ever view sin in its real, sinful character. They will always be on the side of faithful and plain dealing with sins which easily beset the people of God. Especially in the closing work for the church, in the sealing time of the 144,000 who are to stand without

fault before the throne of God, will they feel most deeply the wrongs of God's professed people. This is forcibly set forth by the prophet's illustration of the last work under the figure of the men each having a slaughter weapon in his hand. One man among them was clothed with linen, with a writer's inkhorn by his side. 'And the Lord said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.'

"Who are standing in the counsel of God at this time? Is it those who virtually excuse wrongs among the professed people of God, and who murmur in their hearts, if not openly, against those who would reprove sin? Is it those who take their stand against them, and sympathize with those who commit wrong? - No, indeed! Unless they repent, and leave the work of Satan in oppressing those who have the burden of the work, and in holding up the hands of sinners in Zion, they will never receive the mark of God's sealing approval. They will fall in the general destruction of the wicked, represented by the work of the five men bearing slaughter weapons.

"MARK THIS POINT WITH CARE: Those who receive the pure mark of truth, wrought in them by the power of the Holy Ghost, represented by a mark by the man in linen, are those "that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that are done' in the church... Read the 9th. chapter of Ezekiel. *all

"BUT THE GENERAL SLAUGHTER OF*THOSE WHO DO NOT THUS SEE the wide contrast between sin and righteousness, and do not feel as those do who stand in the counsel of God and receive the mark, is described in the order to the five men with slaughter weapons: 'Go ye after him through the city, and smite: let not your eye spare, neither have ye pity: slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at My sanctuary.'" Vol. 3, pp. 264-267. (For ORIGINAL TEXT see RH A2:49.) ["AND BEGIN (the slaughter) AT MY SANCTUARY" = what a terrible indictment against those who purported to be the spiritual leaders of the church!]

STILL ADDRESSED TO "The Laodicean Church" = STILL THE "Straight Testimony to the Laodiceans." =

"I saw that many who profess to be keeping the command-

ments of God... will sink in darkness because of their covetousness. The plain, straight testimony must live in the church, or the curse of God will rest upon His people as surely as it did upon ancient Israel because of their sins. God holds His people, as a body, responsible for the sins existing in individuals among them. If the leaders of the church neglect to diligently search out the sins which bring the displeasure of God upon the body, they become responsible for these sins...

"God will not be trifled with. It is in the time of conflict that the true colors should be flung to the breeze. It is then that the standard-bearers need to be firm and let their position be known. It is then that the skill of every true soldier for the right is tested. Shirkers can never wear the laurels of victory. Those who are true and loyal will not conceal the fact, but will put heart and might into the work, and venture their all in the struggle, let the battle turn as it will. God is a sin-hating God. And those who encourage the sinner, saying, It is well with thee, God will curse.

"Confessions of sin made at the right time to relieve the people of God will be accepted of Him. But there are those among us who will make confessions, as did Achan, too late to save themselves. God may prove them and give them another trial, for the sake of evidencing to His people that they will not endure one test, one proving of God. They are not in harmony with right. They despise the straight testimony that reaches the heart, and would rejoice to see everyone silenced who gives reproof." Vol. 3, pp. 269, 272. RH A2:50.

"I AM FILLED WITH SADNESS when I think of our condition as a people. The Lord has not closed heaven to us, but our own course of continual backsliding has separated us from God. Pride, covetousness, and love of the world have lived in the heart without fear of banishment or condemnation. Grievous and presumptuous sins have dwelt among us. And yet the general opinion is that the church is flourishing and that peace and spiritual prosperity are in all her borders.

BECAUSE OF THIS CONDITION = IN WHAT DIRECTION IS THE CHURCH HEADED?

"The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt.

(THE CHURCH HEADED FOR EGYPT IN 1882 - HOW FAR HAVE THEY MANAGED TO GO - IN 92 YEARS SINCE THAT TESTIMONY?)
(WHERE IS THE CHURCH TO-DAY?)

"The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward Egypt. Yet few are alarmed or astonished at their want of spiritual power. Doubt, and even disbelief of the testimonies of the Spirit of God, is leavening our churches everywhere. Satan would have it thus. The testimonies are unread and unappreciated. God has spoken to you. Light has been shining from His word and from the testimonies, and both have been slighted and disregarded. The result is apparent in the lack of purity and devotion and earnest faith among us.

"Let each put the question to his own heart: 'How have we fallen into this state...? Have we not brought upon ourselves the frown of God...? Have we not been seeking the friendship and applause of the world...? No matter who you are... You must repent.'" Vol. 5, p.217.

STEPS TO CHRIST = "Genuine faith is followed by love, and love by obedience." Vol. 5, p.219. 1882.

"THE EAGER DESIRE to urge men into public notice is an evidence of backsliding from God and of friendship with the world... It shows... spiritual blindness...

"I have been shown that the spirit of the world is fast leavening the church. You are following the same path as did ancient Israel. There is the same falling away from your holy calling as God's peculiar people. You are having fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Your concord with unbelievers has provoked the Lord's displeasure. You know not the things that belong to your peace, and they are fast being hid from your eyes. Your neglect to follow the light will place you in a more unfavorable position than the Jews upon whom Christ pronounced a woe.

"I have been shown that unbelief in the testimonies has been steadily increasing as the people backslide from God. It is all through our ranks, all over the field. But few know what our churches are to experience. I saw that at present we are under divine forbearance, but no one can say how long this will continue... There are only a few who, like the stars in a tempestuous night, shine here and there among the clouds." Vol.5, pp. 75-6. 1882.

image of the beast will be formed before probation closes... Rev.13:11-17... This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed." (Letter 11, 1890.)

E.G.White comments:

A Word to the "Little Flock" - (BBH - 35¢.)

"... the living righteous will receive the seal of God prior to the close of probation." WTF 30. [And, of course, there are 144,000 sealed at that time, and then Christ throws down the censer. "It is done." ... "Every case was decided, every jewel numbered." EW 279,280. [Followed by the 7 Last Plagues. The "Voice of God" does not raise some of the 144,000 or place a seal on them. They are all "Numbered and sealed" before the "Voice of God!"]

"... the 7 last plagues... A decree went forth to slay the saints... This was the time of Jacob's trouble. Then all the saints cried out with anguish of spirit, and were delivered by the voice of God. The 144,000 triumphed." EW 36-7.

"... the living righteous will receive the seal of God prior to the close of probation." SM 1:66.

"TRANSLATED TO HEAVEN WITHOUT SEEING DEATH."

[Webster = Translate, "Remove to heaven without dying."]

EW 283 = "... and Jesus would be honored by translating, without their seeing death, the faithful, waiting ones who had so long expected Him."

LIKE ENOCH = 2T:122. PP 88. SR 61.

LIKE ELIJAH = DA 421. EW 164. "... without tasting of death" "... translated to heaven without seeing death" - PK 227. PP 477. "... written among the living." 5T:476. 1877 SOP 2:337. EW 284.

THE SEALING GOING ON SINCE 1844 - ???

"This report is not true... careless hearers reported what they thought they heard." 5T:692. Ev.234,235.

[We should have more Writers of Truth = and we should take our stand with them.] THE PUBLISHERS,

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Canada VOH LHO.

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