

AM I IN DANGER OF BEING LUKEWARM?



July 19, 2009



“Because Thou Art Lukewarm, Neither Cold Nor Hot, I Will Spue Thee Out of My Mouth.”
-Rev. 3:16

Most Christians are able to distinguish good from evil, but can they distinguish “lukewarm” from being good or evil? How is this category more spiritually dangerous than being evil?

Those who faithfully read and study God’s word will be accused at some time of judging others according to Biblical standards. It is frustrating to experience situations when the gospel is presented in its entirety that the accusation of judgment is thrown into play. Why does this repeatedly happen? Is this an example of encountering a spiritually lukewarm person? What does “lukewarm” mean?

THE LUKEWARM CHURCH

- In Revelation 3:15-16, the Bible clearly warns against being “lukewarm.” What is the simple definition presented in these verses?
 - For us to understand lukewarm, we must first understand what is hot or cold. Read and compare definitions and cross references for the following:
 - Cold - Rev. 3:1; 2:4; James 2:17-18, 26
 - Hot - I Cor. 14:12; Titus 2:14; II Cor. 7:9-11
 - What would be considered “lukewarm” evangelism (sermon, Bible studies, curriculum, world outreach)?
- What is the consequence of being lukewarm? Rev. 3:16
 - Compare this to the consequences of other unfaithful churches. Rev. 2:9; 22-23; 3:1-2
 - Conclude: Is “lukewarm” on the side of good or evil?
- Read the causes that lead to being “lukewarm” and breakdown the meaning of each of the following phrases: Rev. 3:17
 - “I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing...” - Is. 55:1-2; Luke 12:21; Jn. 16:23-24; Rev. 3:18a
 - “and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable...” - Ro. 7:24
 - “...and poor, and blind, and naked.” - II Cor. 5:3; Is. 61:10
- What would be considered a “lukewarm” response to the word of God? Ezekiel 33:30-31
 - Compare to James 1:22-24; Matt. 7:2. What can we conclude?
 - Is it possible for a child of God to give a “lukewarm” response? I Thes. 5:22-24
- What comfort can be found in chastening? Rev. 3:19
 - Respond to additional insight from Heb. 12:5-11.
 - If we heed this chastening and “have the ears to hear,” what gifts are we to look for other than preaching, teaching and hospitality? Ro. 12:6-8; I Cor. 12:7-9
 - If we now know that we need to respond as one who is “hot” for the gospel, what can be our prayer?

DEFINITIONS	
1.	CHASTEN “PAIDEUO” (G3811) - TRAIN UP A CHILD, EDUCATE, DISCIPLINE
2.	COLD “PSUCHROS” (G5593) - CHILLY (LIT. OR FIG.) COLD; COMES FROM G5594 INANIMATE BREATHING, BARELY ALIVE
3.	HOT “ZESTOS” (G2200) - BOILED, FERVENT (PASSIONATE); FROM “ZEO” - TO BOIL, BE HOT, FERVENT
4.	LUKEWARM “CHLIAROS” (G5513) - TEPID:- LUKEWARM. USED ONCE IN THE GREEK TEXT.
5.	REPENT “METANOEO” (G3340) - TO THINK DIFFERENTLY OR RECONSIDER
6.	ZEALOUS “ZELOO” (G2206) - TO HAVE WARMTH OF FEELING FOR OR AGAINST.

As the hart panteth after
water, so my soul panteth
after thee... Ps. 42:1 KJV

TEXT OF THE WEEK

“AS MANY AS I LOVE, I RE-
BUKE AND CHASTEN: BE
ZEALOUS THEREFORE, AND
REPENT.” - REV. 3:19

