



The Mar Thoma Church

Diocese of North America & Europe

Christian Education Forum

Lenten Meditations

HEALING: KNOWING OUR SICKNESS

Revelations 3: 14-19

Christ Diagnosis our sickness

In the first verse, Christ identifies Himself as the “Amen... the ruler of God’s creation,” speaking to his followers in Laodicea (and by extension, all Christians). Let’s look at this passage in a medical context. Consider this – Christ is the Doctor, providing a checkup on his patient, the Laodicean church. What is the sickness that Christ is so vividly depicting in this selection?

The Diagnosis: Being lukewarm Christians. The Remedy: Choosing a side!

In a world where we are raised to maintain high opinions of ourselves, it is easy to be misled when it comes to the reality of our situation. We can analyze this passage as if the patient is doing a self-assessment, claiming that they are ‘rich... and do not need a thing’, when they are in fact woefully wrong. We see a similar phenomenon in our culture – individuals who go to the doctor saying, “I’m healthy, I feel fine”, despite waging an internal battlefield of sickness. This is the case with the Church of Laodicea; rich on the outside, but poor in spiritual matters.

Christ heals our sickness

We can use this passage in a practical context to examine both ourselves and our church; ask yourself - do we acknowledge our complacency when it comes to serving God, our fellow believers, and those who are not as fortunate as us? As a worshipping community, do we worship with the fire in our hearts that the Holy Spirit ignites?

Christ expects us to be willing and eager ‘patients’; we should be aware of where we are in our walk with God, and understand that we are in need of healing that can only come through Christ. Let us examine ourselves internally using the characteristics of a Christian, and not through the superficial lens of the world.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I pray that You fan the flame that the Holy Spirit has ignited in my heart. Let me no longer be complacent or apathetic, but rather, I pray that You allow me to be passionate about the gift of Your grace that You have given to us, Your people Help me to be a catalyst that will invigorate my family, my community and my church. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Mr. Blessen Kurien & Mrs. Anissa Kurien

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

Revelations 3:15-16