



## Living a life on fire for God

### Introduction

Today I want to show you that God expects us to live a life that is totally sold out for Him, without any excuses or any compromise.

Sadly many Christian's are confused and living their lives with no Spiritual fruit or significance of any sort.

They live, lives so parallel to the world that many in the world cannot see any difference and this is confusing everyone in the World and that is way the world thinks we are a bunch of hypocrites.

A hypocrite is someone who pretends to live a life a certain way but in fact lives the total opposite when people are not around. And God is saying enough is enough I want you to come out from this wrong way of living and to start to live like God intended us to like! On FIRE for Him!

### Become HOT for God!

In the Book of Revelation we read of Jesus talking to the seven churches. These were seven churches that existed in the Apostle John's time while he was living on the Island of Patmos, where he wrote the book of Revelation.

Also note that the entire book of Revelation is ONE revelation and the Revelation is Jesus Christ. It is NOT multiple revelations but one revelation of Jesus Christ.

As a short introduction to the seven churches, Jesus speaks to each of these churches. He speaks to the angel of each church, so interestingly there is an angel in charge of each church, even an angel of the WalilANJI church. Jesus tells them what He finds is good about them, and then what He finds bad and how to fix the problem, or the solution to the problem.

Christian theologians through the ages have three specific views for the application of this message:

1. One group believe that these seven churches represent seven church ages though out history and that we are now in the seventh or Laodicea period.
2. The second group believes these are warnings to seven different types of churches through the age and that the Laodicea church is just one of seven types of problems found in the church today.
3. And the third group believe that everything is for the entire church today and must be seen as a whole and not an individual church.

Now there are other views but these are the three main ones. I believe the whole bible is relevant even today so I tend to side with the third group.



## Hot or Cold for God

So let's turn in our Bibles to **Revelation 3:14-22**

*"<sup>14</sup> To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. <sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup> You say, "I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing." But you do not realise that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup> I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so that you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so that you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so that you can see. <sup>19</sup> Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent. <sup>20</sup> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. <sup>21</sup> To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup> Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."*

Lord I pray that you will bring the salve and anoint our spiritual eyes so that we can see and hear Your Word today and so that we can apply this message in all our lives, today. In Jesus Name, Amen!

It says a lot in this part of scripture and I will not have the time to go through it all but I am going to concentrate specifically on verse 15 to 16. It says *"<sup>15</sup> I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! <sup>16</sup> So, because you are lukewarm – neither hot nor cold – I am about to spit you out of my mouth."*

Jesus says He knows He knows our deeds. Yes Jesus knows you, Yes He has seen all the things you did this last week, last month, last year. He has seen everything and from what He sees, He says the verdict is... You are Neither Hot nor Cold and that He wishes we were one of the other.

That is Jesus want you to be totally on FIRE for Him or Totally ice cold. One or the other. That also means that if you are not completely on FIRE for God right now, you are cold or Hot! Which of these two are you! Are you hot for God or Cold?

### Explaining Hot and Cold

The question you might have is what does this hot and cold mean, because I love God but I am not flat out serving Him as I should! What does this mean?

So let me explain it like this: God does not want you to be a chameleon! You know what a chameleon is? It is a reptile that when it walks in the bush it camouflages itself to look green like leaves. Whatever it walks on that is the colour it tries to become.

This is exactly what Jesus is saying here. You are luke warm, you are a mix of hot and cold.

When you go to church, you have enough Christianity in you to sound like a Christian, you know the songs, you speak the language, you even have the music and Bible cover and some Christian t-shirts. In other words there is enough of Christianity in you that the Church thinks you are saved. As a spiritual chameleon you have adapted to the Christian ways, sayings. Even your language is good, no swearing or foul words. Only nice sweet things to say.

As you sit in church you look at your watch to see if it is time to go home. You play with your cell



phone. Look at the boy or girls in church. The Word of God is not soaking in because everything is distracting because your heart is not really at church. Church is thing you do each week, a social club to meet people and to sooth your conscience!

On the other hand when you come to the world you as a chameleon change your colours and you party like everyone else. You know the songs and dance all night. You swear and cheat and do all the things your friends are doing

If we asked the people at church, Is Johnny a Christian? They say yes he never misses church, he is so good and well mannered. When you ask his friends at home they say, oh Johnny he can drink us all under the table. He is always in the disco chasing the girls.

And when you say but Johnny is a Christian and goes to church they will say, No, He isn't a Christian?

You have confused the church, the world and your friends and family who you really are. You have two lives. A life at church which is squeaky clean and a life at home which is fifthly dirty.

That is the luke warmness that Jesus is talking about. Satan loves you being in this state because through his deception he has you just where he wants, on your way to hell!

Jesus says if you are neither hot nor cold, that He will spew you out, out of what? Out of His church / Out of Heaven.

### **What about Grace**

Now I might hear you say, what about GRACE! Pastor you told us that Grace is God's riches at Christ's Expense. That we do not fall under the Law anymore but under GRACE.

That is true but no one knows how much GRACE there is but according to **Hebrews 12:14-17**

*<sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup> See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many. <sup>16</sup> See that no one is sexually immoral, or is godless like Esau, who for a single meal sold his inheritance rights as the oldest son. <sup>17</sup> Afterwards, as you know, when he wanted to inherit this blessing, he was rejected. Even though he sought the blessing with tears, he could not change what he had done.*

Unless we stop playing Christianity and start to live under true grace, unless we start to live in Holiness we could fall short of Grace. Living a life of luke warmness to God is like playing Russian roulette with your eternal soul.

May I remind you that this is not me saying Jesus will spew you out of the church / out of Heaven, this is Jesus Christ the Son of God saying it. Why because if He paid such a heavy price for your Salvation and you are living like you don't care then your lifestyle is condemning you and you will not go to heaven.

Jesus is saying that just as Esau sold his birth right for a bowl of food, you are selling you rights as a child of God for a few fleeting moments here on earth!

You might say, hey pastor I am saved, Jesus will forgive me, He understands all my issues and



problems! That might be true but might I remind you of the parable of the 10 virgins in **Matthew 25:1-13**, you can read it tonight but for now I will tell you the parable:

There were 10 virgins who took their lamps to the wedding feast, five were foolish – why because they did not prepare for the future and did not have extra oil or the Holy Spirit) and five were wise – why because they took oil in their lamps but also a flask of oil should their oil run out.

The bridegroom (This is a picture of Jesus Christ), took a long time to come – isn't Jesus taking a long time to come to earth to fetch us. I have heard so many predictions of when He will come but He still has not come. So the lesson here is to be prepared for His coming and also make sure you have the Holy Spirit to guide you from falling back into the world)

Eventually the five foolish virgins find that their lamps are running dry and they ask the five wise virgins for some oil, but they only have enough for themselves and so these five foolish virgins go into town searching for the oil.

Many people who are flippant with God and luke warm will one day realise they are wrong and then they will want the Holy Spirit but because they are not saved will not find Him.

So while they were looking for the oil (the Holy Spirit) and the Bridegroom (Jesus Christ) arrived and they were not there and they missed Him. Those who were prepared went into the marriage supper with the Bridegroom and the door was shut!

Who is the door according to **John 14:6** – Jesus, so the way to Jesus was shut. No one could now go into the marriage supper!

Later the five foolish virgins come back to the wedding reception and find the door closed. They bang on the door shouting "Lord, Lord open the door for us". And Jesus replies "I never knew you"

You cannot afford to be luke warm because when you are luke warm you WILL miss the bridegroom when He comes.

That passage ends with the following verse in verse 13 *"<sup>13</sup> Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."*

## Holiness

Now before I close how many of you noticed in **Hebrews 12:14** said?

*<sup>14</sup> Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord*

We must make every effort to live in peace and to be HOLY, because without Holiness no one will seek God.

This is not our own Holiness but the holiness we get but what we become when we are born again and walking in the Word. This is when we are HOT Christians are normal walk with God makes us more and more Holy – That is why Jesus wants us Hot!

We cannot make ourselves more Holy. Jesus made us Holy already – we have to just WALK in the



calling of Jesus and walk in that Holiness!

Not lording over people and bragging about how holy we are, no never! We become Holy as we walk in the calling of the finished work of Jesus Christ on the Cross.

It is ALL about Jesus, nothing about us, we cannot earn Salvation, Holiness or anything, they are gifts we receive as we are born again, through the death of Jesus Christ.

**1 Peter 1:15-16** says *"<sup>15</sup> But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; <sup>16</sup> for it is written: 'Be holy, because I am holy.'"*

### Conclusion

So the hot spoken of in **Revelation 3:14-22**, is to live your life flat out for Jesus, doing what His Word says, Allowing His Word to wash you clean and make you Holy. By obeying His commands and being Guided by the Oil of the Holy Spirit and walking in the Holiness He has provided through the Oil of the Holy Spirit.

That is what it means to be HOT for God, not being a super human Christian, impressing everyone with your skill and good deeds but to doing and living a life that brings honour and please God, through doing it His way!

### Prayer:

Now I know there are many categories of people here tonight so please bear with me as we deal with each one. Please no one leaving, please pray for yourself, your fellow brothers and sisters and they make very important decisions.

### Salvation

Firstly there are people here tonight that have never asked Jesus Christ into their lives and would want to do that right now. Please raise your hands?

Secondly there are people who have asked Jesus in their lives before but your lifestyle proves that you are not and you want to rededicate your life to God. Please raise your hands?

Please will everyone who raised their hands please stand up!

### Pray for them

### People wanting to be on fire for God

Next there are people who hear this message and even though you come to church every Sunday you are not totally sold out to God and you lived a double life and you want to take a stand for Jesus and ask Jesus to make you HOT again. Please will you stand!

### Pray for them