

Very earnest words.

God, the Heavenly Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ strongly warn against a faith that is taught by the precept of men.

Where can one find the true, living faith through the Holy Spirit today? A faith from the heart, which expresses itself in love for God, the Heavenly Father, and God's Son Jesus Christ?

Who still has real repentance for his sins?

Whoever has no sincere awe for God does not know Him. And He says: "I never knew you!"

Only through the substitutionary sacrifice that Jesus Christ made on Golgotha can we be saved from our sins.

Our life here on earth is merely a preparation for the Kingdom of Heaven. Whoever is saved here already belongs to the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

The prophet Isaiah prophesied against the spiritually blind of then and now.

Isaiah 29:9-16:

"Amaze yourselves and be amazed, blind yourselves and be blinded" (NBG'51)

"Amaze yourselves and blind yourselves. . ."

When the Lord Jesus was traveling through Israel for about three years, He performed many Divine miracles and the people were extremely **amazed** at what they saw and heard.

For very many, unfortunately, it remained merely **amazement**.

They heard His words and saw His miracles of deliverance and healing. Their hearts were not touched. A little later they cried out: "Crucify Him!"

God said through the prophet Isaiah: "Amaze yourselves and be amazed." The people were only amazed. God's judgment follows: "Be amazed!"

God speaks on: "Blind yourselves and be blinded!"

The people have blinded themselves through idolatry, sins, and so on.

To this God speaks: "Be blinded!" This is His judgment.

How great is the global blindness that has come about through, among other things, the theory of evolution? This is a belief devised by man to get rid of God.

Mankind has yielded to an idol that is represented by a 'Big Bang'.

Satan tempted Eve and Adam.

If Adam and Eve would act against God's commandments, then, according to Satan, they would become like God.

Satan himself was cast out of heaven because of this!

How does the unbelieving man reason? "I am my own God and I am the only one who tells me what to do."

The Lord Jesus speaks in Matthew 7:13-22 about entering the Kingdom of Heaven.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven."

There will be many who will say to the Lord Jesus: "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name and in Your name drive out demons and in Your name perform many miracles?"

And then the Lord Jesus will tell them plainly: "I never knew you. Away from Me, you evildoers!"

Without radically repenting these people have blinded themselves, and God's answer is: "**Be blinded!**"

Many people find the Bible a difficult book to read and understand.

Isaiah explains very clearly in chapter 29 what the cause is.

God no longer gave His prophets words to speak. God's Spirit no longer gave light. Because of this, it became a sealed book for them, which one gives to someone who can read, saying: Read this, but he answers: I cannot, for it is sealed. Or the book is given to someone who cannot read, saying: Read this, but he answers: I cannot read.

They have blinded themselves through their sins.

God is not mocked; therefore His judgment comes: "Be blinded," and it happens.

The Lord Jesus quotes Isaiah 29:13,14 in Matthew 15:7-9. In Isaiah 29:13,14 it reads:

"The Lord says: "These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. Their worship of Me is based on merely human rules they have been taught.

Therefore once more I will astound these people with wonder upon wonder; the wisdom of the wise will perish, the intelligence of the intelligent will vanish."

Isaiah continues to warn. Also regarding matters that are found in a similar way among present-day evolutionists:

verses 15, 16: "Woe to those who go to great depths to hide their plans from the LORD, who do their work in darkness and think, "Who sees us? Who will know?" You turn things upside down, as if the potter were thought to be like the clay! Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, "You did not make me"? Can the pot say to the potter, "You know nothing"?"

How blinded one can be!

The people of the Laodicea congregation were also very blinded, whereas they thought of themselves: "**I** am rich and **I** have enriched myself and need nothing."

The Laodicea congregation is mentioned last of the seven congregations.

This congregation closely resembles modern christianity.

Therefore, we place the whole of Revelation 3:14-22 in parts here below.

It starts with what the Lord Jesus Himself said:

"To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God's creation." (See Proverbs 8:22-31)

The Lord Jesus said:

"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. (*Their hearts are far from God.*)

"You say, '**I** am rich; **I** have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.'" (*the appropriation of God's gifts for oneself, see Matthew 7:22. They went their own way, while it is written: only whoever does the will of My Father Who is in heaven will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.*)

"But **you do not realize** that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked."

(*these self-centered people thought they were doing good. They even performed signs and wonders in the name of Jesus (verse 22). However, they were totally blinded. How can people get out of this? Only by grace, by honestly acknowledging from the heart that they are poor, blind, and naked.*)

Jesus said: "I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich" (*The ransom of Jesus is the highest price He paid with His own blood. A true repentance is necessary*), "and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; (*white*

garments: without Jesus' righteousness we are nothing) and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see. (eye salve: our light must come from and through the Holy Spirit. After this, the love of the Lord Jesus for repentant sinners becomes visible.)

“Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. **So be earnest and repent.**

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.

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.

Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.”

Jesus Christ stands outside and knocks at the door. When the Lord Jesus knocks, does man leave Him standing at the door?