

➔ Message for the church of Laodicea 【Rev 3】

➤ Lukewarm church

- 1) Gold 2) White clothes 3) Salve to put on your eyes

Rev 3:18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.¹⁹ Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.

➔ Spiritual blinded church

The church in Laodicea was located in a region rich in finance, wool production, and medicine.

Though materially prosperous, it was a church that had lost its spiritual wealth.

Jesus told the spiritually blind church to buy “eye salve.”

➔ Spiritual blinded Saul

1. Paul was zealous in persecuting Christians.
2. After meeting Jesus, he was blind for three days.

Acts 9:1 Meanwhile, **Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord’s disciples**. He went to the high priest² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem.³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?”⁵ “Who are you, Lord?” Saul asked. “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting,” he replied.⁶ “Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.”⁷ The men traveling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone.⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus.⁹ **For three days he was blind**, and did not eat or drink anything.

1. Ananias placed his hands on Saul and prayed for him

Acts 9:17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized,¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus.²⁰ At once **he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God**.

- 1) The prayer of laying on of hands by Ananias, a disciple of Jesus
- 2) Something like scales fell from his eyes, and he could see
- 3) Being filled with the Holy Spirit
- 4) Beginning Jesus' ministry

- Ananias laid his hands on him and prayed, and he was filled with the Holy Spirit.
- His physical and spiritual sight were restored.
- Immediately after his spiritual eyes were opened, he was transformed from a persecutor of Christians into a preacher of Christ.

➔ We must be aware that we are blind.

Job 42:1 Then Job replied to the Lord:2 “I know that you can do all things no purpose of yours can be thwarted.3 You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.4 “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’5 My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

1) Job realized that although he thought he possessed knowledge of God, he was utterly blind and did not understand God at all.

2) Through his physical trials, Job came to know God.

➔ By Faith our spiritual eye sight to be recovered

Mark 10:46 Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, **he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”**48 Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, **“Son of David, have mercy on me!”**49 Jesus stopped and said, “Call him. So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” 50 **Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.**51 “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, **“Rabbi, I want to see.”**52 “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” **Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.**

1) When Bartimaeus the blind man heard about Jesus, he kept crying out for him.

2) When Jesus called him, he threw off his cloak and went to Jesus.

3) By Bartimaeus' faith, his sight was restored.

4) After gaining his sight, Bartimaeus followed Jesus.

2 Jesus came to recovery of sight for the blind

Luke 4:18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and **recovery of sight for the blind**, to set the oppressed free,19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.

➤ Spiritual Blindness

Those who do not seek the heart of Jesus and do not know Him:

Filled with their own thoughts, habits, customs, worldly ideas, and religious notions.



➤ A state of spiritual enlightenment

Those who know the heart of Jesus: Seeking God's ways, not human or worldly thoughts or methods. A state of being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Applied: People Whose Spiritual Eyes Were Opened

1. Paul: Persecuted Christians [zealously adhered to Judaism] = Transformed into an Apostle of Christ

2. Job: Boasted of knowing God, but through trials experienced God and had his spiritual eyes opened.

3. Blind Bartimaeus: Persisted in asking Jesus and his eyes were opened. Cast aside his cloak and was transformed into a disciple of Jesus

➔ Are your spiritual eyes open? What matters most? The things of this world? Or the things of Jesus?

➔ Seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Like Paul, who received the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands.

➔ Keep earnestly seeking the Savior Jesus, that your spiritual eyes may be opened.

➔ Continue to intercede in prayer for those who are spiritually blind.