

"Spirit-Filled Life in the Gap"

The Ministry of the Spirit

August 30, 2026

Revelation 3:14-22

Intro: the tension between promise and reality

1 Corinthians 15:57 - But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Romans 6:4 - We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 8:37 - No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

...Romans 7

The City of Laodicea

- Sits in a valley of the Lycus River in between Colossae and Hierapolis

1. Settling for the Middle (v.15-17)

Spiritual Stagnation

Spiritual Apathy

Spiritual Deception

I am rich. I have prospered. I need nothing.

2. Seeking Wise Counsel (v.18-19)

Reliable Counsel Centers on Jesus

- Current Landscape of Counseling
- Biblical Counseling

Transforming Transaction

- Buy

Isaiah 55:1

*[1] "Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.*

The Core of Counseling

- Gold refined by fire - Faith

1 Peter 1:6–7 - *In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, [7] so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.*

- White garments to cover shame - Robes of Righteousness

2 Corinthians 5:21 - *For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

- Salve for your eyes - Knowledge of Jesus

2 Corinthians 4:6 - *For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

Zeal Restored in Repentance

3. Sup with Jesus (v.20-22)

Standing and Knocking

Sitting with Jesus

- The Amen of God

Isaiah 65:16

*[16] so that he who blesses himself in the land
shall bless himself by the God of truth (amen),
and he who takes an oath in the land
shall swear by the God of truth (amen);
because the former troubles are forgotten
and are hidden from my eyes.*

Sourcing Jesus' Waters

John 7:37–38 - *On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. [38] Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'"*

Conclusion: Answer the door!

Psalms 24:7–10

*[7] Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
[8] Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!
[9] Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
[10] Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory! Selah*