

ANY MAN

(REV. 3:20-21)

I have stood and knocked on a lot of doors in my life. I have stood, knocked and called out the name of the person on the other side of the door. We've all experienced standing, knocking and calling the name of the person on the other side of the door. Some doors were answered and others were not. But if we really wanted to speak with that person we kept standing, knocking and calling out to them. In the book of (Rev 3:20-21), Jesus states "Behold (1) I stand at the door and (2) knock" if ANY MAN will hear my (3) voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine (sup) with him and he with me. John, the last surviving apostle (an old man) had been exiled on the small barren island of Patmos. The Roman authorities had banished him there because of his faithful preaching of the Gospel (Rev 1:9). While on Patmos he received a series of visions that laid out the future of the world. The church was experiencing persecution during this time and John was instructed to address the 7 churches in Asia with a message of hope (Rev 1:4). So we find ourselves in (Rev 3) as John addresses the 7th church, the Laodicean church (the lukewarm church). This church had a different issue than the other 6. Laodicea had become the wealthiest, most important commercial center in the region. It was primarily known for 3 industries: Banking, Wool, and Medicine. The members (ANY MAN) of the Laodicea church had become so preoccupied with material things (careers, wealth, clothes, cars, the game, themselves) that they had become lukewarm in their worship and service to God. John (Rev 3:14) starts by announcing the power behind this strong letter. By doing so he was addressing the heresy in Laodicea that Christ was a created being. In (Rev 3:15) he says I know your works. Do you know that God knows your works? He knows the status of your relationship with Him. He knows if you are neither cold (you don't openly reject Christ) or hot (filled with spiritual zeal). He knows if your works are hot or cold, sincere or sideshow. He knows if your works are habit or in honor of Him. He says, (Rev 3:15) "I could wish you were cold or hot". What does He conclude? The Laodicean church was lukewarm, professing to know Christ but not truly belonging to Him. Just like the lukewarm water that was spat out by visitors these self-deceived members (ANY MAN) sickened Christ so He says, "I will vomit you out of my mouth." ANY MAN in this church was not aware of his true spiritual condition. Read (Rev 3:17-19 discuss). Read (Rev 3:20). He (Jesus) knows the condition of the door (ANY MAN'S heart). The context demands that Jesus was seeking to enter this church (ANY MAN heart) that externally bore his name but lacked a true believer but if one person (ANY MAN) would recognize their spiritual bankruptcy Christ would enter the church. Just like the Laodicean church Christ stands at our door so He can be seen and heard. He positions Himself so His knock will be consistent with the condition of (ANY MAN'S heart). Christ presence is felt by the need of (ANY MAN'S heart) to be rescued, delivered from the condition that exist. He stands as the One who can repair the door to (ANY MAN'S heart). He not only stands but He knocks so those who try

to ignore Him will feel Him. He **calls** out to those who run from Him. **ANY MAN** knows Christ is **standing, knocking** and **calling** out to him. But **ANY MAN** is too consumed with the external riches that life has to offer. **ANY MAN** has become drunk with the pursuit of success. **ANY MAN** is (**everyman**) young or old, rich or poor, fat or skinny, short or tall. Answer the door and let God transform your life. Answer the door and let God renew your mind. Answer the door and become an example for others. Answer the door and let Him in (**Rev 3:20-21**).