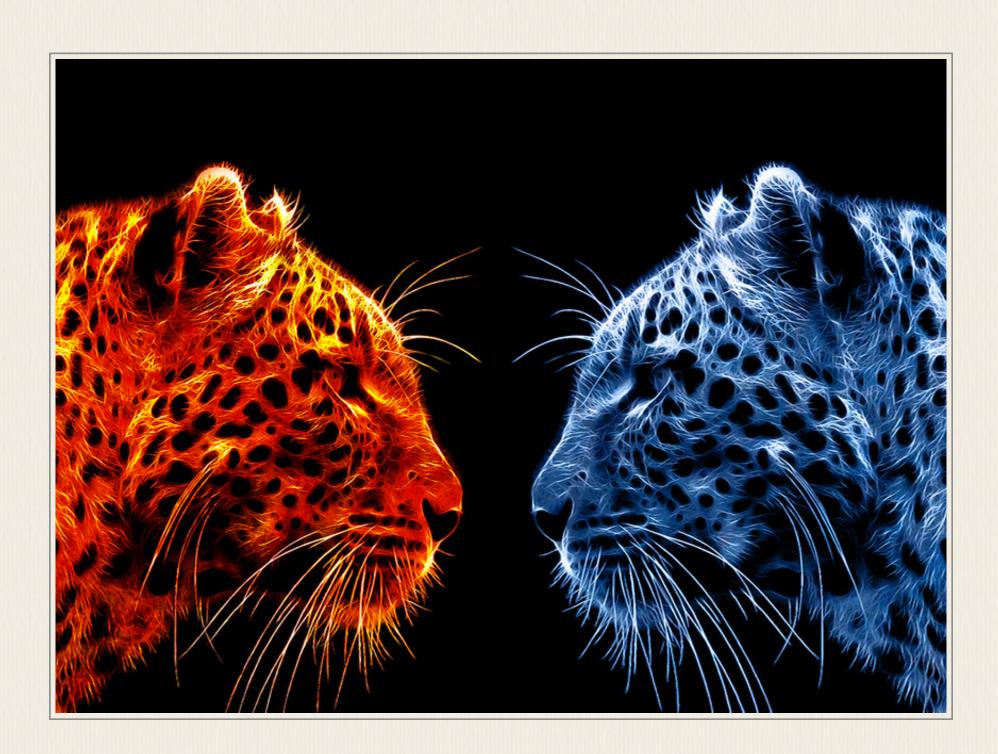
Laodicien Mindset

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Laodicean Mindset

It's subtle at first.

You think you're following the Lord. By saying certain things and my doing certain things such as the communion, going to church, talking about the great commission, and other things, you select yourself and say, truly through a spiritual pride of comfort, that you have been saved and that everything is A-OK.

But subtlely the Laodicean mindset sets.

It does so the moment you think everything is fine.

It's that moment where we stopped pursuing and living on the burning edge of the infinite nature of God, settling for what we already know, and, of course, thinking that we have it all figured out.

This mindset is so dangerous, in part, because it is actually reflective of the values of the culture in the world at large. In essence, this mindset says, "Yes, of course you're safe. You do all the right things. Pat yourself on the back. Do everything that you need to do and no more. Don't walk in the Spirit because it is enough to be who you are."

That's a lie.

We are commanded to be full of the Holy Spirit, to be filled with the Spirit daily and to walk in the Spirit. The Spirit is our guide, our comforter, our teacher, and the One who instructs us in the way that we should go.

The Laodicean mindset says otherwise.

It simply says that we know the way we should go because of the things that we do. It transfers living the adventure of the unpredictable and infinitely good God into settling for the comforts of today, and moving and by perusing our lives with little to no urgency.

In other words, the Laodicean mindset begins to set in the moment we take our eyes off of Christ.

Not only that, forgetting that the culture embraces the enduring vision of comfort and minimal discomfort at the same time, the moment we take our eyes off of Christ and settle anything from this world that provides this false comfort, we've actually already entered into this mindset.

It's no small wonder to say that Jesus said he would vomit us out of His mouth if we have this mindset when He returns. That's because it is truly disgusting. It takes the eternal, infinite gift of God's goodness and Holy Spirit and replaces it with the false comforts of technology, television and movies, politics, relationships, shallow sexual encounters, food and entertainment, social life, sleep, and, yes, even the taken for granted the status of our own salvation.

The Word says we are to "work out our salvation with fear and trembling", and throughout Romans 11, Paul talks at length about us being grafted in to the tree. I believe that Paul is giving us a firm and relevant confirmation of the need to work out our salvation with fear and trembling:

Romans 11:16-22 NKJV:

For if the firstfruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches. And if some of the branches were broken off, and you, being a wild olive tree, were grafted in among them, and with them became a partaker of the root and fatness of the olive tree, do not boast against the branches. But if you do boast, remember that you do not support the root, but the root supports you. You will say then, "Branches were broken off that I might be grafted in." Well said. Because of unbelief they were broken off, and you stand by faith. Do not be haughty, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, He may not spare you either. Therefore consider the goodness and severity of God: on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

In part, the Laodicean mindset is so dangerous because it is contagious, much more so than a silly virus.

Encountering another brother or sister who's comfortable, in fact even giddy and happy and content with the way that their "life is going", can leave us to compromise ourselves into this mindset. In taking even the slightest chance, we're quick to slide into quiet sleep that eventually becomes a lack of urgency.

This is not to say that we should not have life abundant. Quite on the contrary. We should have life abundant, but we should also remember that that life abundant only comes from staying connected with the source of all life, Jesus Himself.

The moment that we disconnect from him is the moment we start to wither.

The enemy would like nothing more then for all of us to adopt a Laodicean mindset. That's because when we take our eyes off of Jesus, even if it's momentarily, we forget that we are in a war the salvation of our souls. What's more, that we forget that we have been endowed with the power that raised Jesus from the dead, along with his authority.

In forgetting these facts, we also do a disservice to our other brothers and sisters who have not been brought into the kingdom of God. For they too are in a war for their souls. However, they do not yet know it. They are cold. And the Lord says oh how He wishes we could be cold or hot.

Brothers and sisters, there is no middle ground, there is no opportunity for comfort in this world.

There is nothing here that can suffice or meet our needs for connection. Only Jesus can do that. The moment we take our eyes off of Him and think otherwise, we have already started down the dangerous and slippery path to being in the Laodicean mindset.

So stay hot, stay on fire for the Lord. "Behold I am coming quickly."