



WHAT KIND OF CHURCH DO WE HAVE?

Wayne's Weekly Words

There is only one of two answers to this

question. When John was banished on the island of Patmos, God gave him a revelation that shows the progress of the church through the ages. There is a total of seven ages listed. Five of them have definitely passed, only two remain.

"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write, 'These things says He who is holy, He who is true, 'He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts, and shuts and no one opens': I know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name.

Revelation 3:7-8 (NKJV)

This church began after the reformation as many felt the call to reach the world and a great missionary movement started. Today Guadalupe Community Church is contributing to the support of seven missionary families - from Israel to Indonesia.

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, 'These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--

Revelation 3:14-17 (NKJV)

Are we still looking through the "open door" and using it to reach the unsaved? Are we looking at people we know who are unsaved and doing what we can to reach them for Jesus Christ. Or, are we "lukewarm" about our faith.

Every once in a while, I will fill a glass with water

for a nice refreshing drink. Then I will discover the water to be lukewarm because Gail had been running hot water a little time before. YUK. I know exactly what he Lord means about spewing the warm water out of my mouth.

John was told, *'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'*. I know of a lot of churches that fit this category. They have all kinds of programs. They have "Worship Services" where the music is so loud it deafens you. Many of these songs (as well as some of the other statements) are all about ME, ME ME! In their eyes, God has given them everything and they have need of nothing more.

Is it true they need nothing more? You probably already know the Scripture that answers this question.

Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

Revelation 3:20 (NKJV)

While all of the music and wild celebration is going on, they are not able to hear someone knocking at the door of their church. Jesus wants to come inside but they have managed to exclude him.

When we come together to worship on Sundays, is Jesus Christ there with you? Is He sitting in the pew beside you encouraging you to worship Him in a reverent glorious way? Is He there to help you assimilate the words of the Pastor as he brings the morning message? Be thankful that you have a pastor who is true to the Word.

This is not like one church where the pastor was greeting people as they left for the morning. One woman was in tears. "Why are you crying?" The pastor, who was leaving to go to another church, said, "Has it to do with my leaving?" "Oh yes," said the lady, "we have had seven pastors now and each on has been worse than the previous one!"

Make sure that the "open door" remains open - open for missionaries to go out and for Christ to come in!

