

1. **Review:**

- "Ruler of God's creation."
- Walk (conduct your life) so that you change the structure of reality to be ordered.
  - In the image of God, we are also creators of the reality of our lives.
- John ties together **Genesis 2-3**, **Isaiah 65**, Jesus as "Son" and **Proverbs 3**

2. Read – **Revelation 3: 14-22**

3. "The words of the Amen" -

- Isaiah 65:16
- *Amen* derives from the word *Emet*, which means "truth."
  - We end our prayers with Amen, which means, "May it be true."
- Isaiah 65:16 could easily be read as "the God of amen."
  
- The overall message of **Isaiah 65** is about Israel and salvation. God is reaching out to Israel. If they would come back to him, God would restore them.

4. **Laodicea Data:**

- A very wealthy city. Their wealth came from:
  - A banking center / they also minted coins
  - A black wool from the sheep in the region called *trimata*. This wool was a luxury item for the wealthy, allowing you to charge a significant markup.
  - Medicine for eyes
- Laodicea had a famous school of medicine for eyes.
  - Famous eye doctor Herophilean Demosthenes "Philathes."
  - "Phrygian Powder" – zinc compounds for eyes.
  - Eye salve – mixed with water from Hierapolis.
- In 60 AD, an earthquake struck and destroyed much of the city. Emperor Nero offered money to help rebuild, and the people of Laodicea rejected his offer.
  
- Rev. 3: 17 – 18

5. **Spiritual Transformation** – Biblical metaphors that concern the process of transforming.

- Death / Renewal (baptism) (Titus 3:5)
- Launderer's Soap (Malachi 3:2)
- Refiner's Fire (Malachi 3:2)

#### 6. Stand at the Door and Knock:

- Monuments to Cybele and Midas (Midas considered Cybele, his mother)
- *Aslan-kaya* - the “Lion Rock”
- Constructed as a doorway. A statue of Cybele would be placed on the door.
  
- "I stand at the door and knock." - Rev. 3:20
- Where does John get his material?
  - **Isaiah 65:1**

#### 7. Roman law of *Angaria*

- Angaria is the ancient postal system, but within the Roman Empire, it expanded into a transport system.
- Transport was compulsory – a Roman soldier could force you to carry his pack one Roman mile. (Matt. 5:41).
- Roman soldiers/officials traveling could demand a large meal (Greek: *deipnon*).
  
- **Rev. 3:20**

#### 8. Hot or Cold!

- **Hierapolis:** The waters at Hierapolis were "hot," and the "hot" water was **good**.
  - It is good for relaxing and holds numerous medicinal properties.
- **Colossae:** Colossae was located at the base of the region's tallest mountains, at the valley's entrance. The mountains are snow-covered nine months of the year. The water from the run-off provided fresh "cold" water, and the "cold" water was good! It was refreshing to drink, and it watered the land.
- **Laodicea:** Laodicea had notoriously **bad** water. The water was piped in from a spring over (4) miles away, making it lukewarm and full of minerals. The water system at Laodicea is clogged with minerals.
  
- **Rev. 3: 15-16**
  - Laodicea is neither hot nor cold. Hot is good. Cold is good. They are just lukewarm.
  - Be good for something!

#### 9. Menorah-Cross - a Jewish-Christian -

- Menorah-cross inscriptions are often found with the flames of the menorah crossed out. The flames represent the presence of God. On this one, the flames were not extinguished.