

The High Cost of Self-Sufficiency

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Text: Revelation 3:14-22

Introduction: Jesus had a message for the church in Laodicea that resonates powerfully today!

A spirit of prideful self-sufficiency takes root when we _____ ourselves and _____ God.

A spirit of prideful self-sufficiency will eventually cause our: _____ to become infrequent and weak.

Awareness of God's _____ to dissipate.

Spiritual _____ to first diminish, then die.

_____ to be greatly reduced since we won't attempt what is only possible through faith.

_____ to be limited to the extent of our own capabilities.

A spirit of prideful self-sufficiency will always lead to spiritual _____ and _____.

Many American churches have become powerless places as their congregants have abandoned their reliance on God!

Jesus said that these words were how the Laodiceans described themselves:

I am rich — they saw this as their present _____.

I have acquired wealth — they saw this as their past _____.

I do not need a thing — they saw this as why they were justified in their _____.

Jesus saw the Laodiceans somewhat differently than they saw themselves. He said they were:

- _____ — they were miserable and unhappy!
- _____ — their lives were a complete mess!
- _____ — they lacked emotional and spiritual resources!
- _____ — they couldn't see their own reality!
- _____ — what they were was apparent to others!

The Laodiceans saw themselves as they wished to be seen by others, rather than as they were seen by God!

Conclusion:

Is our pride doing the same things to us?
