

THEOS LOGOS
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Session 5

Philosophy is 3 things as it relates to Biblical truth. It is the evaluation between truths, some more valuable than others. It is the connection or location of vital truths together as companion truths, and when they are separated, they become error. They are no longer truth – separated. The third one is timing. Chronological. You're going find out if you'll understand this where the Church is in deception today.

What was the third thing that Satan did in the wilderness temptation of the Lord? Well he couldn't get Him to jump from the pinnacle because Jesus knew that the truth Satan quoted was lie unless it was kept in close connection with another truth. Never separate those vital connected truths. If you do, you are philosophically wrong. Not doctrinally wrong.

He took upon a high mountain. And in a moment of time, and that was supernatural, he showed Him all of the kingdoms of the world and the glory and the power of them. And he said if you'll worship me, I will give you these. Now Satan can give you the kingdoms of the world and the glory and the power of them. He can give them to me and to you. But buy the truth and don't take anything for it. Know the bids are high for the truth. Many men are selling it for glory and power. Any may God give us the grace to go down totally unknown, poor with no glory, no power for the truth. Hallelujah. I intend to go down to my grave with the truth or up in the rapture, whichever comes first. I don't believe I'll take anything for it. I tell you what Satan would give me for it. Just what he offered Jesus to a lesser degree. Which would be a satisfying degree to a human like me. Power and glory, popularity, fame. Watch it. He'll give it to you. Quit the Evangelical Methodist Church and go with that which is popular and prosperous. We can do it. But I don't think the price is worth it.

Doctrinally, is there anything wrong with all of the kingdoms of this world belonging to our Lord Jesus Christ? Nothing wrong with that. Is that not going to be so? Is Jesus Christ coming to rule and reign on the planet Earth and brake the power of the nations as a potter's vessel? Establish a kingdom that shall know no end? That's right. The Lord Jesus Christ will be the Eternal King. What was wrong then? Timing.

Satan said Jesus you can have it today. You won't have to wait 2000 years. You can have it today. The Church right now is deceived and destroyed and their all going to go to hell unless there can be someone awaken them from their deep sleep of death. When I say the Church, I mean real Christians. We are totally deceived today in the philosophical area. Not in the doctrinal area.

The last one was timing. Doctrinally, there's nothing wrong with Jesus possessing all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory and the power of them. Doctrinally, that's entirely sound. The philosophical error that made it a deadly deception had He fallen for it was that You could have it right now and you won't have to wait 2000 years. That's what he's talking about.

Brings us back to Laodicea in Revelation. **ILLUSTRATION 4.** Remember what the square represents. Truth. Theology. I want to show you something that has happened in our lifetime that is dreadful indeed. Remember we have God's truth, all truth, is a 2-part thing. And I want to draw this into two equal parts.

We're got philosophy and doctrine. We've got doctrine and philosophy. In history on the downslope and the upslope between the mountain peaks of Philadelphia and Laodicea. You remember "Modernism." It was the scourge of the Church of Jesus Christ. It destroyed the great Methodist Church. Then we had what was called "Fundamentalism." Modernism – modernistic fundamentalist controversy, Raged around 1900 until 1946 somewhere in that area in history. Modernism and fundamentalism in the church of Jesus Christ. In conflict.

You remember Jesus Christ spoke in Laodicea that thou art neither cold nor hot and I would that thou wert cold or hot. I would prefer that you were all hot or all cold. But because thou art lukewarm, I will spew you out of my mouth. Lukewarm.

Modernistic theology, the theology of Modernism. What they taught about God. And the theology of fundamentalism. Fundamentalist theology. Modernist theology. Were two theologies that developed during a period of history coming down from Philadelphia, the best period of the Church ever, moving up toward Laodicea, the worst period of the Church ever in history. These two theologies come in to play. The theology of Modernism and the theology of Fundamentalism are very important in history.

Modernist theology in the sight of God is ice cold. The doctrines of Modernism was that the Bible is a bunch of myths. That's a bad doctrine, isn't it? Terrible doctrine. That Jesus was not the Virgin born Son of God. The virgin birth is biologically impossible. That's ridiculous. That's what the Modernists said. The Modernists ridiculed the Resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ. They ridiculed the Second Coming of Jesus Christ back to Earth. The man's been dead for over 2000 years. They ridiculed the blood sacrifice on the cross. They called it a slaughter house religion. It was horrible. I could go on and on. Their doctrine was horrible. Smelled to high heaven.

But their philosophy. What was the philosophy of the Modernists? How was their evaluation of doctrine? Union, cooperation love was elevated to the top. Nothing else was important but that we work together for the good of mankind. That we love one another. That we cooperate together. We don't care whether you believe in the virgin birth or not. We know it's not true and it kind of naive and infantile for you to believe it. But we'll still work with you. And we thought this was going to be the great one world Church movement of prophesy. Their philosophy was we can all get along no matter what you believe. We can unite in the calls of God for the good of humanity. The World Counsel of Churches, The National Counsel of Churches were the offspring of the philosophy of Modernism. We can all get together no matter what we believe. What you believe is not that important. Love is more important. That's the philosophy of Modernism.

What was the philosophy of Fundamentalism? The virgin birth is of critical importance. The inspiration of the Word of God that every word in the Bible is absolutely true. That's important. It matters what you believe. And there are things, that if you don't believe you cannot be a real Christian and you cannot go to Heaven. Philosophy of the Modernist said it doesn't matter what

you believe, there's a pluralism. Even witchcraft is acceptable. We can work together. It's true they did that. I have a pamphlet from the United Methodist Church that says: in the pluralistic society of the Methodist Church that there are things that are called witchcraft by society that are acceptable in the religion of the United Methodist Church.

God looks upon the doctrine and philosophy or the theological system of the Fundamentalists as hot. It is hot. That means it was good; it was right; it was truth. He looked upon the theology, the theological system of the Modernists as totally cold. It was wrong in its doctrine; it was wrong in its philosophy. Fundamentalism was right in its doctrine; it was right in its philosophy.

I want to show you what Satan has done. I'm not going to divide this in a triangular way but in a rectangular. This represents a system of beliefs. A theology. The square does. Divided in the middle brings us philosophy and doctrine. I want to show you what has developed in history.

The Church of Jesus Christ today has a theology that is neither hot nor cold. How do we get lukewarm water in our laboratories to wash our hands? I turn on the hot or in my shower. I turn on the hot full blast until it gets really hot and then I turn on the cold and I get it where it's just right. I don't want it too cold. I don't want it too hot. I want it somewhere in between.

What Satan has done to the Church of Jesus Christ today, He has taken the ice cold philosophy of Modernism and the red hot true doctrine of Fundamentalism and he has created a new theology. It is called **LUKEWARM**. And it Laodicean theology. It is not fundamentalist theology. It is not modernist theology. It is a combination of those two – cold and hot. It is a new lukewarm theology of Laodicea. The true Church of Jesus Christ right now has a Laodicean theology.

I could bring you materials that I have on file from churches in Irving, Texas that are truly the leading edge of Laodicea. The Charismatic movement is the most manifest or the leading edge of the great deception of Christ's Church at the end of the age. Most Christians are going to in it. In fact, most Christians already have. It's going to get the Ken Fallons. It's going to get the James Robinsons. It's going to get the Billy Grahams. It's going to get the Pope John. It's going to get everybody including me and you. This was a prophesy. It is a deadly deadly irresistible deception.

It is a theology of the last days of the Church composed of cold modernistic philosophy and hot fundamentalist doctrine. The charismatic church today is fundamental in doctrine and modernistic in its philosophy. It is the unity movement. It is a worldwide one church super church. Modernism could never bring it to past. Lukewarm Laodiceanism shall surely bring it to past. A one world worldwide super Christianity. Exciting beyond your imagination. Rewarding in the emotionalism and the sensationalism of miracles and of blessings and of joy and of prosperity and of respect and of everything you could name except in the area of hot truth. It's true. It is true.

Lukewarm. What did Jesus say? I would I wish that you were cold. Why? Because cold modernism was not deceptive. It would have never gotten me. It would have never gotten you. But this will get you. That's why God said I wish that you were cold or hot. I'm certain that would be His preference. He rather we'd be ice cold than lukewarm because this lukewarm theology is so powerful in its deceptive aspect. That it'll get me and you and James Robinson and Ken Fallon and all the rest.

It is going to be the happiest most joyous Christian experience in all of history to be involved in this movement. It will ring the joy bells of your tummy. Miracles will actually occur. That's what we'll get into next.

Lukewarm theology which is a mixture of fundamentalism and modernism. It is modernistic in its philosophy; it is fundamental in its doctrine. It is the most dreadful deceptive delusion the church has ever faced.

To overvalue a truth causes an over-emphasis in the Church. Look at Roman Catholicism for a moment. The Bible says of the Virgin Mary, all generations shall call me blessed. You know the Bible says that? So doctrinally, the Roman Catholic church is right about the Blessed Virgin. But as to the value of Mary there is a philosophical deadly error of exalting her to an equal level with Jesus Christ and all who believe that will perish. Doctrinally, she is to be exalted. Philosophically, she is overly exalted. And all who believe the co-redemptrix. You know, the Catholic church has actually passed that Mary is co-redemptrix with Jesus Christ. That they both work in redemption of one's soul. And that is a deadly damning error. It is a philosophical error not a doctrinal error.

What about the healing of the body? What relative value does that have in the life of the church? The church today has a dreadful philosophical error of grossly over-emphasizing healing of the body. Certainly, it's true. I believe in divine healing with all of my heart. I have personally experienced it. I have personally observed it. Near miraculous healings.

What about the value of miracles in the church? Of what relative value is the miraculous? And I mean by miraculous sense manifestations of the reality of the supernatural. What value do they have? Relatively little. And yet, the Laodicean church today has grossly exaggerated and over-valued the truth that God works miracles. And that's become the dominant thing. That is in the forefront. The miraculous. That is a philosophical error not a doctrinal error. Laodicea is steeped in philosophical error but not in doctrinal.

Listen to this: To over-value a truth, a piece of God's theology, causes an over-emphasis in the church. Conversely, to under-value a truth causes an under-emphasis of that truth. Either of which results in a truth becoming a damaging and even a deadly error. A truth like Mary can be so exaggerated philosophically that it'll damn the souls of God's people. It'll do it. A truth becomes a damning thing when it is philosophically distorted. It's true. Miracles which are doctrinally true can be so over-emphasized they will damn the souls of God's people. So damaging or deadly errors result from over-emphases or under-emphases of God's truths.

Also, a truth which is out of proper connection or location relative to its direct and indirect associate truth can and does become a tragic and even a deadly error. Direct and indirect relationship between truths affect their meanings and their accuracy. The relationship between two truths affect their meaning and their accuracy.

A fact of divine revelation may become an error when placed and held out of proper relationship with another truth which is essential to complete God's meaning of and for it. Few truths of divine revelation can stand alone isolated from other truths and still be true. A truth becomes an error

held out of proper relationship with companion truths. We've heard it this way for years but we've never understood what it meant. That's taken out of context. And that is taking a truth of scripture away from its vital companion truths and making it a deadly error. That's philosophical error. Not a doctrinal error but a philosophical error. The church is going down in ruins not in the area of doctrine but in the area of wisdom or philosophy. And it's affecting all of the Baptist churches, all of the Methodist churches, all of the church of Jesus Christ is severely affected at this very point in time right now. They are all in trouble theologically.

I want to go to something else sort of a different subject but certainly related. This relates primarily to miracles. The church is addicted to miracles today. It is a tragic philosophical error of great damage and destruction. I hope all of you are aware that the church seems to be putting miracles in the forefront. Expect a miracle today. Bumper sticker. A pulpit in our denomination in close proximity to this one has a banner on the pulpit in an Evangelical Methodist Church: Expect a miracle. Everywhere you look the word "miracle" and "miraculous" is being presented emphasized. God is a God of miracles. And certainly, He is. That's true doctrine. But emphasis on the miraculous in Christ's church today is a dangerous damaging error. And may become very deadly.

Open Bibles to Matthew 24 which is Chapter that relates to our time – the end of the age. We stated that the principle of first utterance when a vital question is asked or God introduces a vital subject, the very first thing He says is of greatest significance. Now in the 24th chapter of Matthew, Jesus spoke of the destruction of the temple complex in Jerusalem after the disciples had bragged about their beauty, He went up on the mountain and His disciples came unto Him privately and they said: Matthew 24:3 - *Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world?* Age. That's a vital question from God's people. And Jesus said this in verse 4: *Take heed that no man deceive you.* Now I am saying this that deception is the most important, the primary sign of the Second Coming of Christ. Deception is the most significant important sign of the Second Coming of Christ.

Now let's look at verses 3-5, well I just read 4: *Take heed that no man deceive you. For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.* Now the term "many" here in the Greek means more than half or a majority. Shall deceive the majority. Now it may be 99% it may be 90%, it may be 51%, but it's the majority. The majority of the true disciples of Christ are going to be deceived. This is not saying that many people will come claiming that they are the Christ. That won't get God's people. If I told you that I was Jesus Christ, would you be in danger of believing that? You wouldn't. John the Baptist had to deal with that. I'm not the Christ. Everybody thought he was. I'm not. But there's one coming after me that will be. That's what he said. I'm the forerunner.

What it means here is that many shall come in on the strength and the respect and the popularity and the power of My Name. And they shall be saying that I am the Christ. Not that they are but that Jesus is the Christ. That's subtle. The deceivers will be saying yes Jesus of Nazareth is the true Messiah. He's the Christ. They're not going to be claiming that they are. It's just a punctuation problem here. You know in the Greek New Testament as it was originally written there is no punctuation and no separation between words. It is a weird thing to see on an original manuscript. You really have to know Greek to be able to discern it and have the Holy Spirit help.

They will be saying that Jesus is the Christ, and they shall deceive many. So we expect the deceivers to be agreeing with us that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ.

Now go to verse 11: *And many false prophets shall rise... Preachers that God didn't call to preach, and shall deceive many.* (the majority). Most ministers will not be God's called ministers. That's what He's saying in the last days.

Let's go to verse 24 in the same chapter: *For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.* Now the once saved always saved church today loves to say see there, it is impossible to deceive the very elect. I want to assure you that in the Greek text, there is no such word as impossible in this text. No impossible but two possibles. I don't want to go into the in depth. I preached that in our church.

What it is saying is that the deceivers will deceive every real Christian if they possibly can and it's possible they can. If the deceivers are powerful enough, they shall deceive the very elect. If the very elect are knowledgeable enough, it will not be possible to deceive them. The determining factor as to whether you and I will be deceived or not is our degree of knowledge and understanding of the truth. If we are ignorant of the truth, we shall be deceived. We who are real Christians. There is no impossible in that text whatsoever. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that it is impossible for God's very elect to be deceived. I can prove that to you but it's not our purpose.

What I want you to see in this verse is that there shall arise false Christs. Now those are not individuals claiming to be Christ. These are theologies presented. What I preach and teach is a presentation of a Christ. What the church down the street preaches and teaches is a presentation of a Christ. And there are many Christs in Irving today. The charismatic church is presenting a different Christ than this church presents. The Catholic church is presenting a different Christ than this church is presenting. There are different Christs being presented by the theologies often. Our theology is our Christ and our Christ is our theology. And there are many different theologies being preached in many different churches in Irving, Texas today. You'll hardly find the same theology in any one church today anymore.

I want you to see there in verse 22 that miracles are definitely involved. There shall arise false theologies being presented and plenty of preachers to present these false theologies and shall show great signs and wonders to the extent and degree that if they possibly can, they shall deceive the most committed knowledgeable Christians in the church, the very elect. Miracles are involved in the deception.

Let's go if you will to 2 The 2:7-12 - *For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let,* or restrains or holds it back that's what that means 1611 in English, the word "letteth" means to hold back, not to permit or let go *until he be taken out of the way.* There's a restrainer holding back the mysterious iniquity that is already at work but not yet fully manifested. Something will be removed and then let it be fully manifested in verse 7. *And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan* or Satanic

activity *with all power and signs and lying wonders*, The term “lying” here attached to “wonders” does not mean the wonders are not real. It means that they offered and believed or accepted to be wonders from God. In fact, they are wonders from Satan. That’s the “lying” aspect. It means that they are thought to be of God and are of Satan. So it’s a lie. But the wonder will be real. This is talking about the anti-Christ, the beast. Note in verse 9, it’s not his arrival on the scene, but the activity and process of his coming, not his actual arrival on the scene. The coming of the anti-Christ will be working through Satanic power through the miraculous. With all power and signs and wonders thought to be from God when they were from Satan and not from God. That’s what I want you to know. I want to go on farther now through verse 12. *And with all deceivableness total deception of unrighteousness in them that perish*; or that are perishing who are being ensnared and trapped by the delusion *because they received not the love of the truth*, there’s only one thing that will deliver me and you, not a casual appreciation of the truth, but an energetic pursuing love for the truth. You’re not going to survive the onslaught of deception without a love for the truth. If you will not receive a love of the truth that causes you to actively pursue the truth, then you’re not going to survive. It’s going to be that powerful that all-consuming. That’s what God is telling us. This is not a like maybe thing, this is an absolute. This deception is going to get us unless we pursue the truth with activity of love. The truth is what I need. The truth is what I want. *that they might be saved. And for this cause because they receive not the love of the truth God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned* perished from God’ creation *who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in that which was not really the truth; that which was not right; that which was wrong unrighteousness.*

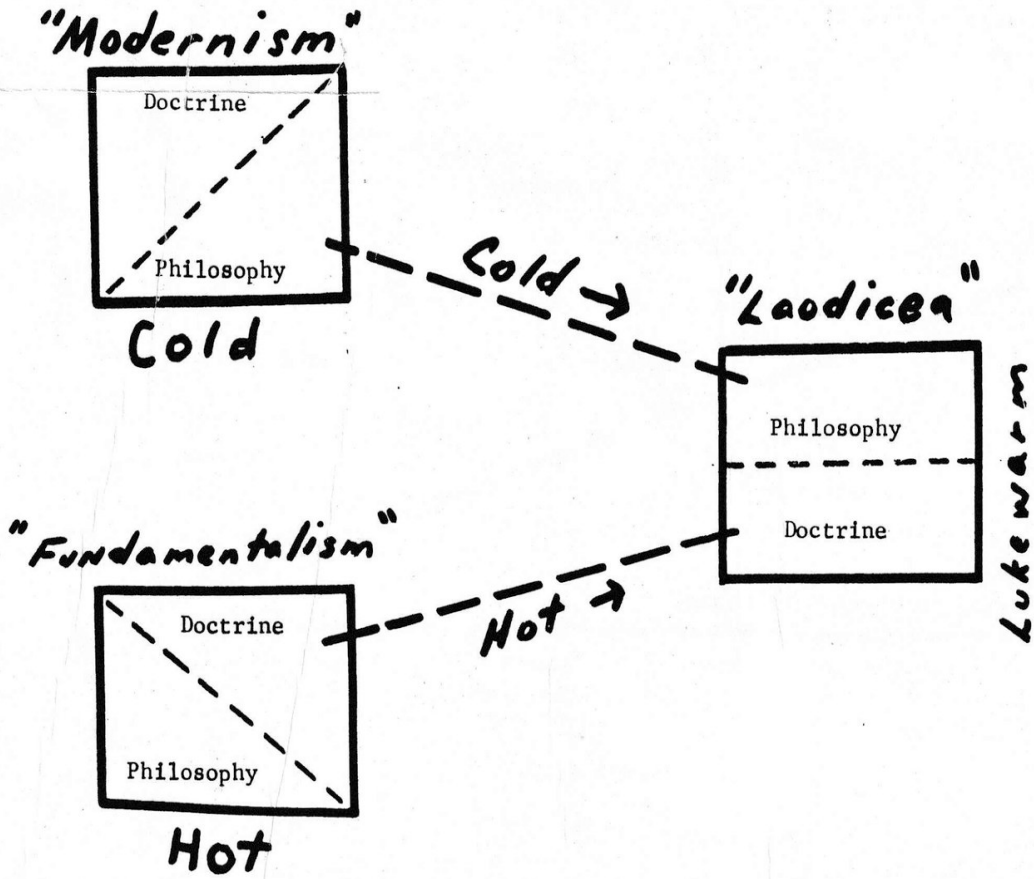
Note that miracles are that which is directly involved in this dread delusion upon the church. Both in Matthew 24, it says by great signs and wonders and in 2 The it says, the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders. That’s the miraculous. The miraculous is going to be a vital part of the deception of the church at the end of the age. There’s no question about that. This makes all miracles immediately suspect. Every time the church says miracle, you step back and say, wait a minute. That’s the means, the catalyst of the great deception at the end of the age.

Now let’s get into something that will finish this up rather rapidly. Mark 8:11 - *And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign from heaven*, notice that, a miracle from God. The Pharisees came seeking a miracle from God *tempting testing him*. They wanted to know that He was what He claimed to be because God gave miracles. Of course, that wouldn’t satisfy them at all. Would it. Verse 12: *And he sighed deeply in his spirit, and saith, He was grieved deeply Why doth this generation seek after a sign?* Miracles. If you’ll ever answer that question that Jesus asked, you’ll be well on your way to deliverance. Why do they want a miracle? Nothing wrong with miracles. Something wrong with why you want them. *verily I say unto you, There shall no sign miracle be given unto that kind of people this generation.* Their reasons are wrong and God will give them none. But there’s someone else who will. His name is Satan. Why does the church want all of these miracles? That’s the question. Why do they want miracles? God will not give them any if their reason is wrong. But Satan will. That’s what the prophecies are telling us. Verse 13-15: *And he left them, and entering into the ship again departed to the other side. Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, neither had they in the ship with them more than one loaf. And he charged them, saying, Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.* Listen to Him in verse 15 – beware of the leaven of the Pharisees. Now what is it? Verse 11 is the leaven or the theology, the philosophical theology of

the Pharisees - *And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question with him, seeking of him a sign miracle from heaven, tempting testing him.* “Leaven” means teaching or theology of the Pharisees. The “leaven of Herod,” what is that? Why did God throw that in? We’re going to find out what that is in just a moment. Certainly, Satan is fully involved in this. The “leaven of Herod.” What is the theology of Herod? What is his doctrinal and philosophical concepts of God. Beware, He warns us against the doctrine and the philosophies of the Pharisees and also that of King Herod.

Let’s go to Matthew 16: - Remember beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of Herod. The leaven of the Pharisees could be a great many things. So God threw that in and of Herod to focus in specifically on what part of the leaven of the Pharisees He meant. Because there is a broad revelation in scripture of the Pharisaical concepts of God both philosophically and doctrinally but there’s very little said about King Herod. So that brings us to know for sure what Jesus meant. We’re not to that part yet, but in Matthew 16:1-12, and I’ll try to read rapidly: *The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven. He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?* Know there are two different kinds of signs in the context now. A miraculous sign and a scriptural sign of where we are in God’s timetable. The signs of the times or the indications of where we are in God’s Plan *A wicked and adulterous generation* That’s the zeroing in on any particular group of people but any group of people that are this way whatever time they live. *A wicked and adulterous* that means they have a marriage relationship with God but are being unfaithful in their commitment of their relationship with God. *Adulterous. seeketh after a sign or a miracle; and there shall no sign miracle be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas.* Proclaiming of the truth which worked in Nineveh. *And he left them, and departed.* The only sign that God is going to give this wicked adulterous generation is a proclamation of the truth. No miracles. That’s what He said. There shall no miracle be given to that kind of people. The only sign that they’re going to get is the proclaiming of God’s truth in their ears. *And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread. Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees. And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have taken no bread.*

Illustration 4



THE SOURCE AND CONTENT OF LAODICEA