**Are You An Apatheist?**

**Reading – Revelation 2:1-5 and 3:14-19**

**Causes of Apatheism.**

CONSIDER THE ISRAELITES... Warned about the danger of materialism.

 ***[Deuteronomy 8:11-14] “Beware that you do not forget the Lord your God by not keeping His commandments, His judgments, and His statutes which I command you today,  12lest—when you have eaten and are full, and have built beautiful houses and dwell in them; 13and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and your gold are multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied;14when your heart is lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;***

 ***[Amos 6:3-6] Woe to you who put far off the day of doom, Who cause the seat of violence to come near; 4 Who lie on beds of ivory, Stretch out on your couches, Eat lambs from the flock And calves from the midst of the stall; 5 Who sing idly to the sound of stringed instruments, And invent for yourselves musical instruments like David; 6 Who drink wine from bowls, And anoint yourselves with the best ointments, But are not grieved for the affliction of Joseph.***

***[Hosea 12:8] And Ephraim said, ‘Surely I have become rich, I have found wealth for myself; In all my labors They shall find in me no iniquity that is sin.’***

**Cures.**

1TRUE REPENTANCE... by godly sorrow for sin. ***[2 Corinthians 7:9-11] Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing.  10For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.  11For observe this very thing, that you sorrowed in a godly manner: What diligence it produced in you, what clearing of yourselves, what indignation, what fear, what vehement desire, what zeal, what vindication! In all things you proved yourselves to be clear in this matter.***

 2. We learn of grace, and the penalty of neglecting it! ***Romans 2:4-11 4Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? 5But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, 6who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: 7eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; 8but to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness—indignation and wrath, 9tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; 10but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11For there is no partiality with God.***

***[Hebrews 10:26-31] For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. 28Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? 30For we know Him who said, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. And again, “The Lord will judge His people.” 31It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.***

B. TRUE RELIGION... Many are apathetic because they have not seen or experienced true religion! ***[James 1:27] 27Pure and undefiled [TRUE] religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.***

2. But Jesus offers that which truly satisfies!

 He offers the water of life that quenches thirst – John 4:13-14; 7:37-39

 He offers the bread of life that eliminates hunger – John 6:35

 He offers light that dispels darkness – John 8:12

 He offers freedom from the guilt and bondage of sin – John 8:34-36

 He offers the abundant life, filled with joy and peace – John 10:10; 14:27; 16:33

3. He offered to the lukewarm Laodiceans, riches now, and royalty

 to come! - ***[Revelation 3:18-21] I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. 19As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. 20Behold, 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. 21To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.***

**Now It’s Just a Matter Of Staying With it.**

***[Revelation 2:7] “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God.”’…. 25 But hold fast what you have till I come. 26And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations—***