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## Because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold... Rev 3:16

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### Make a decision!

Dear friends of go4peace,

Laodicea was a prosperous city in the Lycos and MeanderValley in present-day Turkey. The small Christian community that was founded there behaved with strong self-confidence and got rebuked for this in the Revelation of John. Near the city there were famous healing springs. The hot water of these springs flowed down the steps into the valley towards Laodicea. There the water was lukewarm. The people of the city constantly had this image in mind. Hot water is useful as a healing spring or hot drink. Cold water is very refreshing. Lukewarm water, on the other hand, is of no use - it does not taste; you spit it out. "Being lukewarm" means wanting to be cold and hot at the same time, wanting to keep every avenue open to me. It means to look for the "golden middle way", the pleasant one. I go with Jesus, but I don't fully support his path. Genuine love and self-denial become alien to me. I don't decide because I could miss out on something better that could be coming my way. The Word of God is not foreign to me, but it has not led me into a deep friendship with Jesus. He is no longer the center of my life; there are so many other things. I want to take everything with me and make compromises on all sides - but the compromise becomes the grave of my loyalty.

How do you get lukewarm? Either the water is taken away from the hot stove, or the fire goes out, or cold water is added. Being lukewarm is a gradual thing, a slow cooling of love for Jesus. Other things are gaining more and more space. Often lukewarmness is accompanied by complacent satiety and blindness. The Laue has a very good opinion of himself. But the determination for Jesus has been lost. John holds this mirror up to the congregation of Laodicea and she hears: "Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent!" (Rev. 3:19)

Tomáš says: "In the depths of my heart, love for Jesus had always burned. The desire to become a priest was there early on. But I had chosen a different course of study. I was not prepared to follow Jesus' call completely. More and more I experienced myself as lukewarm. I wanted everything from life and did not trust Jesus, who is life, to make me happy. It was fortunate that I met people who burned for Jesus during this time. This determination and burning has also rekindled in me the flame of love for Jesus. Today I am glad that I have decided to follow the call of Jesus. How good that I didn't keep everything open!" – **Decide! Make a decision!**

for das go4peace team

Meinolf Wacker