

*Cultural, Historic, and Geographic Context*



## Revelation Backgrounds 12

### Laodicea I - Historical Background

Revelation 3:14-22



1

### Acts 17:11 (KJV)

**These (Bereans) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.**

Unless otherwise noted, all biblical passages referenced are from the Complete Jewish Bible by David H. Stern. (Clarksville, MD: Messianic Jewish Publishers, 1998).

Unless otherwise noted, images courtesy of the Satellite Bible Atlas and the Pictorial Library of Bible Lands (BiblePlaces.org)



2

## Topics

- Laodicea
  - Background
- Sevenfold structure of each letter:
  - Name of the city
  - Specific attributes of Messiah
  - ~~Praise~~
  - Judgment -
  - Encouragement
  - Promise to the Overcomer
  - "He who has an ear..."
- Does it fit? Apostate age / Dragnet / Colossians



3

*Revelation 3:14-22 (CJB)*

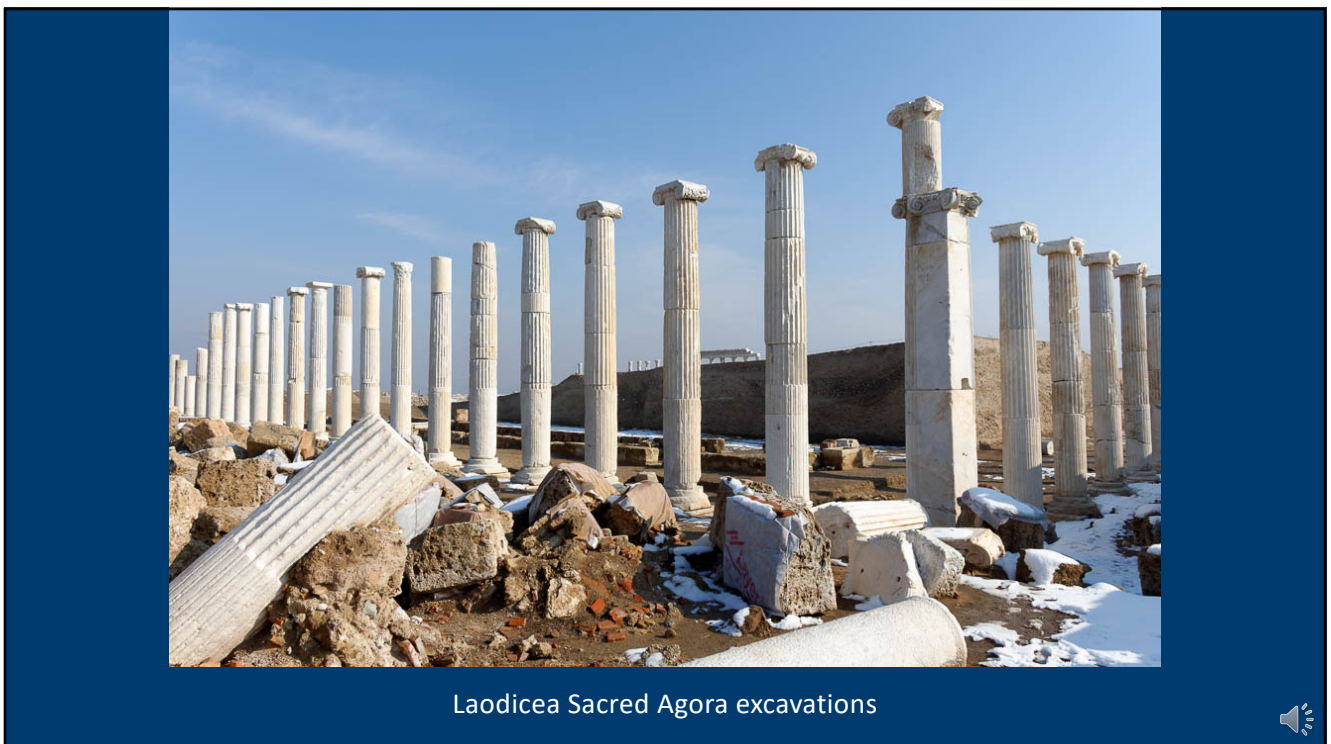
"To the angel of the Messianic Community in Laodicea, write: 'Here is the message from the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the Ruler of God's creation: (15) "I know what you are doing: you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were either one or the other! (16) So, because you are lukewarm, neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of my mouth! (17) For you keep saying, 'I am rich, I have gotten rich, I don't need a thing!' You don't know that you are the one who is wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked! (18) My advice to you is to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich; and white clothing, so that you may be dressed and not have to be ashamed of your nakedness; and eye salve to rub on your eyes, so that you may see. (19) As for me, I rebuke and discipline everyone I love; so exert yourselves, and turn from your sins! (20) Here, I'm standing at the door, knocking. If someone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he will eat with me. (21) I will let him who wins the victory sit with me on my throne, just as I myself also won the victory and sat down with my Father on his throne. (22) Those who have ears, let them hear what the Spirit is saying to the Messianic communities." ' "



4

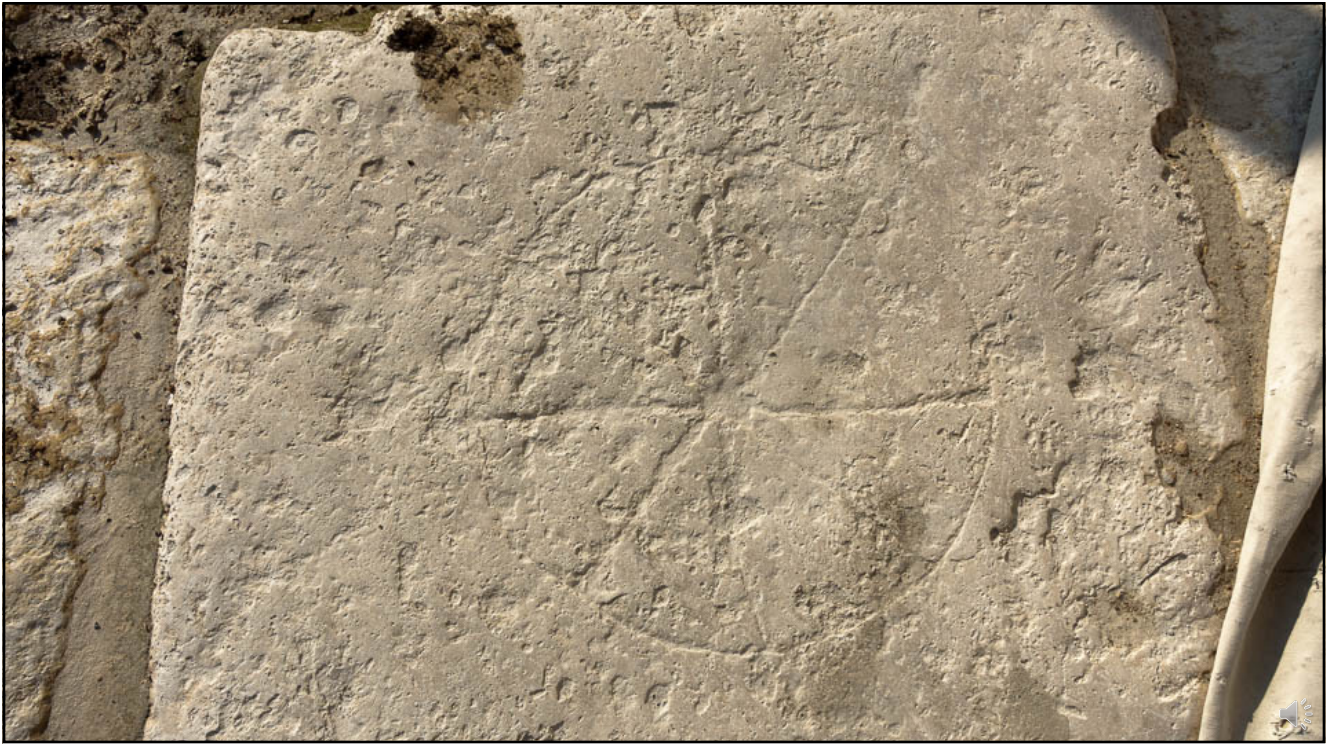


5



Laodicea Sacred Agora excavations

6



7



Laodicea nymphaeum of Septimus Severus

8



Yad HaShmonah olive press



9



Laodicea south water distribution center



10



Laodicea column  
with inscribed  
cross over  
menorah and  
shofar

11

## Colossians

- Col 1:7 just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf
- Col 2:1-4 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at **Laodicea** and for all who have not seen me face to face, (2) that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, (3) in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. (4) I say this in order that no one may delude you with plausible arguments.
- Col 4:15-17 Give my greetings to the brothers at **Laodicea**, and to Nympha and the church in her house. (16) And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the **Laodiceans**; and see that you also read the letter from **Laodicea**. And say to Archippus, "See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord."

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Col 4:15 Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house.

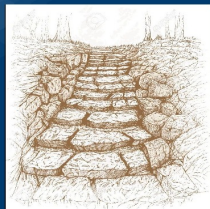


Laodicea peristyle house church with oratory

Col 4:15

13

# Talmidim Way



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