

God and shows God's mercy in his life, every time. And the description of these churches, the description of the individuals, the blessings brought to them, you could spend hours and hours getting blessing for your immediate Christian life, out of these two chapters, absolutely no excuse to neglect these two chapters.

Now there are various questions about the interpretations of these chapters. Well, they are addressed to the church at Ephesus, the Church at Smyrna, the Church of these different places in Asia Minor. Well, why should there be any question? God gave ^{the} a message to each of these churches. Somebody says, what do we care about those churches, we are interested in today, and consequently the question is asked, is there more to it than just a message to those churches? Well, there certainly is. There is a message for all of us, wherever we are, to see which of these fits us, to see what our situation is and to apply whatever is relevant to our situation.

Then in addition to that, there are those who say, we have here a survey of Church History, we have different periods of Church History described here, and we find Church History, ending with the Laodicean Church, ending with a lukewarm Church. Not ending with the great brilliance of the church at Philadelphia, that is before the Church at Laodicea, the final one is the lower situation. Well, I think they dogmatically think this is a picture of Church History. The Bible doesn't say it is. I think we'd be very foolish to say it is, I think we'd be very foolish to say it is dogmatically, but if you can find parallel and get a better understanding of God's word through it, what is the harm in it? You could take one of these and say this is similar to church in this period, and examine the situation of the church in that period and see how these things fit, and you can get a blessing from it, and people to whom you present it can get a blessing, but let's not be dogmatic about it, let's not say the Church of Laodicea ^{=~~is~~ is} ~~is~~ the church of today. Let us say that if this is a picture of Church History, then it would be the church of today and there is much reason to think it fits, and then let's draw our own conclusions. But there are many lessons in these two chapters for our personal life and for our Christian