

Hypothermia

I. Seriousness of Hypothermia

Rv.2:4, left first love

- Started well
- Lost quality that makes others useful: **love**
(1 Co.13)
 - Positive: demand sound teaching
 - Negative: fight heresy
- Mt.24, dangers –

¹¹ Then many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. ¹² And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.

Unhealthy climate in congregation –

- Brotherly love no longer thrives – group of loners
- Evil suspicions cause distrust
- Love for God becomes ritual – war mentality – study just to answer error
 - Ephesus (Rv.2:4) love grew cold...
 - Stale marriage: against divorce, but without affection

Evidence of losing our first love (1/2)

1. Delight in Lord no longer as great...
2. Do not desire times of rich fellowship...
3. Thoughts in leisure do not include Lord
4. Claim to be 'only human'
5. Do not willingly, cheerfully give
6. Do not treat every other Christian as we would the Lord

Evidence of losing our first love (2/2)

7. View commands of Christ as restrictions...
8. Inwardly strive for acclaim of world...
9. Fail to make gospel known for fear of rejection
10. Refuse to give up activity that harms another
11. Become complacent in sinful conditions
12. Unable to forgive another for offending me

Rv.2:4, left first love

Rv.3:1-3

- Formalists or hypocrites or both
 - No reference to impostors
 - Satan found it unnecessary to threaten them with heresy
 - They could not distinguish peace of well-being from peace of death

Rv.2:4, left first love

Rv.3:1-3

Rv.3:15-17

- **Hot:** intense, zealous vs **Cold:** indifferent
- **Lukewarm:** enough religion to inoculate them from real thing
 - Self-satisfaction deceives

²³ Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone – Mt.23

I. Seriousness of Hypothermia

II. Symptoms of
Hypothermia – widespread

Worship loses joy

- Malachi 1:13 You also say, Oh, what a weariness! And you sneer at it, Says the Lord of hosts. And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick; Thus you bring an offering! Should I accept this from your hand? Says the Lord.

Financial support of church slacks

- Malachi 3:8 Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, In what way have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings.
- 2 Cor.8:10 And in this I give advice: It is to your advantage not only to be doing what you began and were desiring to do a year ago . . .

Prayers decrease in frequency; become a formality

- Mt.6:5 And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.
- Ja.4:2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

Hypercriticism

- Ac.6:1 Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

Discontentment; growing desire for something new

- Ac.15:1 And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.
- Ac.20:29-30
- Gal.1:6-9

Worldliness grows stronger

- 2 Tim.4:10 Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica.

Irritating sermons

- Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hobbies replace Bible study

- Hebrews 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Absenteeism

- Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Sympathy for error and worldliness

- 1 Jn.4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. . . . 6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

I. Seriousness of Hypothermia

II. Symptoms of Hypothermia

III. Salvation From
Hypothermia [1 Peter]

Peter

- Fall, Lk.22:54-61
- Recovery, Lk.22:62
- Return, Jn.21
- Commission, Lk.22:31-32

Peter's original audience



How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

1. Leading example, 1 Pt.1:1

- Peter – man who fell down a lot?
- Have we not?
- He recovered, (Ac.4, 5, 12) 2 Pt.1:12-15
- 1 Pt.5:13, influence on Mark
 - If he could change, so could Mark . . . and so can we

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

2. Liberal salvation, 1 Pt.1:2

- Elect – 2 Pt.1:10. 1 Pt.2:4
 - Rejected Lord ... disciples
- Grace – 3:14; 4:1; 4:12
- Peace – not much earthly peace
 - Rejected idols of Roman Empire
 - Changed behavior: 2:11-12; 4:3-4
 - “Peace” – 1 Pt.1:2 ... 5:14

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

3. Living hope, 1 Pt.1:3

- 1:13, rests on His grace

“Hope is disciplined waiting”

- 1:21, hope in God

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

4. Lasting inheritance, 1 Pt.1:4

- 1:1, pilgrims
- 3:7, heirs together
- 3:9, inherit a blessing (Mt.25:34)

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

5. Loving faith, 1 Pt.1:5

- 1:7, more valuable than gold
- 1:9, salvation. Hb.11:8
- Peter exhorts readers . . .
 - Behave wisely, 3:16
 - Endure persecution, 4:19
 - Stand firm in grace, 5:12

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

6. Lavish rejoicing, 1 Pt.1:6— exceedingly joyful, exult, glad, overjoyed
- 1:8, joy, glory
 - 4:13, rejoice

“Unhappiness lies in not knowing what we want and killing ourselves to get it.”

How could Peter save anyone from spiritual hypothermia?

7. Longing love, 1 Pt.1:8

- 4:8, fervent – earnest, eager, outgoing, persevering.