

The Revelation of Jesus Christ
Revelation 2:8-11.

SMBC Family Devotion

Week of February 14, 2021

*Have you memorized any of Revelation 2:1-7?

Before you begin:

- Bro. Jono stated in his introduction that “church history reveals that the church is at her best when she is being persecuted...” Compared to worldly philosophy and thinking, this doesn’t seem right, but in light of Scripture and in studying church history, we know this is true. Think about two times in your own life: a time of persecution/tribulation and a time of “peace.” During which season did you grow closer to God? What Scriptures come to mind when considering the “facts of the matter?”
- Recall Bro. Jono’s 5 points from Sunday’s message.
 - Hint: They all go like this “The _____ of/to Smyrna” and all the blanks begin with a “C.”

Read the text:

⁸“And to the ⁹angel of the church in Smyrna write,

‘These things says the First and the Last, who was dead, and came to life: ⁹“I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and *I know* the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but *are* a ¹⁰synagogue of Satan. ¹⁰Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. ¹¹“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death.”

Revelation 2:8-11.

Discussion:

1. We see in point #1, “The Christ of Smyrna.” And reflecting on the title of Christ, “who was dead, and came to life,” why is it important to remember who Christ is as we suffer?
 - a. Look at verse 10.. It is so “we (or Smyrna in this case) do not fear those things which we are about to suffer” or are currently suffering.

- b. Jesus became dead, rose, and overcame everything in between! So do not fear, remember Christ.
2. What was the comfort that Christ gave to the church at Smyrna?
 - a. Your tribulation will not last forever.
 - b. You can be faithful unto death! Christ will give you the strength and grace to do it.
 - c. You have a reward....the victor's crown....the crown of life!
3. The final point was "The Call to Smyrna" and it is a call to all of us. Look at verse 11. As a family break down this verse and the points of application. Finish with what our Pastor said regarding the "second death."
 - a. He who dies twice will only die once. But he who dies once must die twice.
 - b. Parents challenge your children here. Prayer for their salvation, boldly and publicly. Charles Spurgeon's mother prayed often that her children would think of the condition of their soul, and seeing its wretched condition they would surrender it to God who alone could save it.

Prayer:

- Pray that every one of us would heed what the Spirit says to the churches.
- Pray for Blake Kenaum and Grace Baptist Church in Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada.
 - Pastor Blake and the church have met the past two weeks without fine.
 - Pray the Lord would continue to be gracious towards them, but that no matter what, they would remain faithful to their Lord!