



THE 7 CHURCHES OF REVELATION - Part 2 of 7

What Jesus Says To A Suffering Church?

August 10, 2014

“To the angel of the church at Smyrna write, ‘These are the words of Him who is the first and the last, who died and came to life again. I know your afflictions and your poverty. Yet you are rich. I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not but are of the synagogue of Satan. Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you the devil will put some of you into prison to test you and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful even to the point of death and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death. Do not be afraid.’”

Revelation 2:8-11

5 ENCOURAGEMENTS TO LOOK UP & LOOK AHEAD WHEN YOU’RE FACING SUFFERING

JESUS SAYS...

1. “I **KNOW**”

When you’re suffering remember:

- Jesus **knows** what you’re going through
- Jesus **understands** what you’re going through

2. “DO NOT BE **AFRAID**”

“I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me. I will not fear the tens of thousands drawn up against me on every side.” Ps. 3:5-6 (NIV)

Look at the truth about Jesus in just these verses!

- He is resurrected
- He is all knowing
- He is wise
- He is sovereign
- He is in control
- He is purposeful
- He is generous

3. “I **TELL YOU**”

4 different kinds of persecution in these verses:

1. poverty
2. slander
3. prison
4. death

Where does persecution come from?

- The powerful
- The culture
- The jealous
- The evil one

4. "BE FAITHFUL"

"God, who has called you to share everything with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful." 1 Cor. 1:9 (NCV)

"But the Lord is faithful and will give you strength and will protect you from the Evil One." 2 Th. 3:3 (NCV)

5. "I WILL GIVE YOU"

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Look up and look ahead!