

Revelation 2:8-11 - Smyrna - The Poor RICH Church

Introduction:

In these four short verses the Lord addresses some of the most pressing questions in the mind and heart of His people - especially during time of intense trial and disappointment. But to combat these afflictions, the Lord has given us the most indestructible thing on earth: faith in Himself. When held to without compromise, we find it to be stronger than death. When we consider church history even up to our present-day, persecution, tribulation and trials are not the exception, but the norm.

:8 Background on Smyrna - times, city & religious climate

- Christ's chosen title and its significance

:9 What Christ knows:

- (A) works
- (B) tribulation
- (C) poverty and riches
- (D) the source of our woes and how to deal with them

:10 When things go from bad to worse:

- Fear vs. faith
- An example from Smyrna's history

:11 Christ's Counsel

- "Faithful unto death"
- The reward

Concluding Thoughts