

Sermon: Stand for Your Faith Despite the Present Circumstances

Series: Seven Churches of the Book of Revelation

Bible Passage: Revelation 2:8-11

I. The believers of Smyrna went through persecution (2:9)

II. As a result of the persecution, they have become economically poor (2:9)

III. A section of the society slandered against the Christians which was causing this persecution (2:9)

1. Accusations/slander
2. Increasing pain to the already suffering people (2:10)
3. Siding with the tormentors (cf. Phil 1)
4. Slander with baseless allegations in daily life?
5. Are you a victim of slander? At home, work, etc.?
6. Do you slander against others?

IV. The encouragement to the believers

1. Jesus knows (empathetic knowing) of their situation
2. They are not poor (2:9)
3. Jesus' comforting words: Do not be afraid (2:10)

V. Exhortation: be faithful/persevere till the end (2:10)

1. Not to cave in
2. Not to compromise

VI. Promise: They will get crown of life (2:11)

Take Away

Look and listen to the One who is the "First" and the "Last," the One "died" but "came back to life"