

The Letter to the Church at Smyrna
Revelation 2:8-11

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A. The Head of the Church in Smyrna

1. The Sovereignty of the Lord Jesus

Rev. 2:8; Rev. 1:8

2. The Eternality of the Lord Jesus

Rev. 2:8; Rev. 1:4-5; 1 Cor. 15:12-19

B. His commendations to the church at Smyrna

1. Awareness of their burdens

Rev. 2:9; John 16:33

2. Awareness of their needs

Rev. 2:9b; 2 Cor. 8:2, 9

3. Awareness of their persecution

- Verbal Rev. 2:9c

- Physical Rev. 2:10

C. His commands to the church at Smyrna

1. Be Fearless

Rev. 2:10b; Josh 1:1-9

2. Be Faithful

Rev. 2:10c; 1 Cor. 4:1-2

D. His promise to the church at Smyrna

1. Fullness of Eternal Life (knowing God and Christ)

Rev. 2:10; John 17:1-3

2. Deliverance from Eternal Separation from God

Rev. 2:11; Rev. 20:6, 11-15; Rev. 21:8

Lessons Learned from the Suffering Church at Smyrna

1. We are called to share in Christ's sufferings

Phil. 1:29; Phil. 3:10

2. We are called to persecution

2 Timothy 3:12

3. We learn invaluable lessons through sufferings

Psalm 119:67, 71

4. We lean on God's promises with greater dependency

2 Cor. 1:8-10

5. We live for Christ embracing death as gain

Phil. 1:21