



## #3 Smyrna Faithful Unto Death

Revelation 2:8 – 11 (ESV)

**Revelation 1:1** The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw...

**Revelation 1:9** I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup> I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup> saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

**Revelation 2:8** "And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life. <sup>9</sup> "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. <sup>10</sup> Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. <sup>11</sup> He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'

### 1. **Smyrna** means **MYRRH**

**Matthew 2** Wise men brought to the child gold, frankincense

and **SMYRNA, MYRRH**

**Mark 15** While on the cross Jesus was offered

**WINE MIXED WITH SMYRNA**

**John 19** When they buried Jesus, his body was covered in

**SMYRNA**

**Isaiah 41:4** God says "Who has performed and done this, calling the generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he."

**Isaiah 43:10** "You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

**Isaiah 44:6** Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.

**Isaiah 48:12** "Listen to me, O Jacob, and Israel, whom I called! I am he; I am the first, and I am the last.

2. Jesus tells Smyrna, "I know..." He is saying the same thing to us today, "I know..."
3. Jesus' message to this 1<sup>st</sup> century church and to the 21<sup>st</sup> century church is the same:
  - Things are not as they seem.
  - Evil, though widespread, is not winning.
  - Faithfulness, though costly, is not futile.

#### BIBLE READING PLAN

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun. John 21        | <input type="checkbox"/> Thu. Psa. 119:49-72   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mon. Psa. 118       | <input type="checkbox"/> Fri. Psa. 119:73-96   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tue. Psa. 119:1-24  | <input type="checkbox"/> Sat. Psa. 119:97-120  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wed. Psa. 119:25-48 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun. Psa. 119:121-144 |

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New Life Church, Gahanna/July 23 & 24, 2011