

Introduction:

Text: Revelation 2:8-11

Key Point: The Ultimate Victory

A. I Know Who I Am (vv. 2:8; 1:8, 17-18)

1. “The first and the last”—the eternal God
2. “Who died and came to life again”—the victorious Redeemer

B. I Know You and Your Problems (vv. 9-10a)

1. I know your afflictions and your poverty (v. 9).
2. I know you are rich spiritually, although you are poor materially (v. 9).
3. I know you are slandered by fake Jews (v. 9).
4. I know your impending imprisonment and persecution (v. 10a).

C. I Know the Ultimate Reward for the Overcomers (v. 10b)

1. “The crown of life”
2. Victory over “the second death”

Conclusion:

Read: Revelation 2:8-11

1. What hopeful reassurance did Jesus give the Smyrnan Christians by assuring them that He is “the First, and the Last who died and came to life again” (v. 8)?
2. What political and religious adversities contributed to the afflictions and poverty of the Smyrnan Christians (vv. 9-10a)? Recall Pastor Fred’s explanations in last Sunday’s sermon.
3. As the Almighty Sovereign of the universe (Rev. 1:8, 17-18), why does Christ allow His followers to undergo persecution, suffering, affliction, and poverty? Get the answers from these Scriptures: Phil. 1:29; 1 Peter 1:7; James 1:12; Romans 8:28
4. What is the “crown of life” Christ promised to give the overcomers (Rev. 2:10b)?
5. What is the “second death” that will not hurt the overcomers (Rev. 1:10-11; 20:10, 14-15; 21:8)?
6. What does it mean to “be faithful, even to the point of death” (Rev. 1:10), that can assure you to receive “the crown of life” and avoid “the second death”?

PRAY!