

Are We Worthy of Persecution?

Church #2

- I. The destination of the letter (_____) (Rev. 2:8)
- II. Christ acknowledges the _____ of Smyrna (Rev. 2:9)
 - A. They were suffering great persecution from the _____
 - B. They were living in great _____
 - C. They are being _____ by unbelieving Jews
 - D. There is great _____ in knowing that Jesus knows and understands your struggles
 - E. Even though they are dealing with struggles, they are rich because of God's _____
- III. There is no _____ of Smyrna
- IV. The challenge to Smyrna (Be _____ in the face of persecution) (Rev. 2:10)
- V. Christ's promise to those who overcome (Rev. 2:10b-11)
 - A. Crown of life – _____
 - B. Will not be hurt by the second death – Those who are sent to _____ (Rev. 20:14-15)
- VI. Why do believers face suffering?
 - A. Sometimes we need to be _____
 - B. Sometimes we need to learn to be _____
 - C. The enemy does not want us to _____
- VII. What are the _____ of enduring persecution?
 - A. It provides a better _____ for Christ (Acts 9:15-16)
 - B. It shows where our true _____ lies
 - C. We draw _____ to God
 - D. The church grows _____ and sometimes _____
- VIII. How do we deal with persecution?
 - A. Understand that _____ to God does not guarantee a smooth or easy life (Acts 12:1-2)
 - B. When persecution starts, we need to _____ and _____ (Acts 12:5)
 - C. When going through persecution, _____ God's _____ (Acts 12:6-10)

- D. Believe that God is with you and can _____ you from persecution (Acts 12:13-17)

Questions to Ponder

- I. Are we _____ for persecution?
- II. Are we _____ of persecution?
- III. Are we praying that we are _____ of persecution?