

Be Faithful No Matter What  
Revelation 2:8-11  
The Church of Smyrna

Background – (Bible Places.com)

- Modern Izmir in \_\_\_\_\_.
- The only one of the seven cities still existing.
- Located \_\_\_\_\_ miles to the north of Ephesus.
- Said to be the home of the epic poet \_\_\_\_\_.
- Deities worshipped were \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Strong allegiance to Rome and a high concentration of strong Jews made it extremely difficult for Christians.
- \_\_\_\_\_ was martyred here.

The Description of Christ –

Q. What is the focus of the description?

A.

A Commendation –

Question: Read Romans 2:28-29 and John 8:39-47. How might these verses add to our understanding of verse 9?

Answer:

A Condemnation -

An Exhortation –

Question: Why is suffering not a message that the church is giving out to the followers of Jesus?

Answer:

Question: This crown is called the “Stephen” crown based on Acts 7:54ff. What type of crown is this?

Answer:

A Promise –

Question: What is the second death? Cf. Revelation 20:8, 11-15; 21:6-8

Answer:

Further Questions:

Question: How do you prepare someone for suffering?

Question: How do you speak about afflictions, poverty, and suffering to the Western church that is noted for its lack of those things?

Question: How do you speak about eternal rewards to Third-World or Majority World believers in light of their present afflictions, poverty, and suffering?

Question: Is our church this type of church? What are the positive aspects that we should seek to emulate?