



Be Faithful

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1. Jesus SEES us and knows the DIFFICULTIES that we face.

Revelation 2:8-9

This heavy emphasis on declaring "Caesar as lord" created severe PRESSURES and PERSECUTIONS for the early Christian community in Smyrna.



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Revelation 1:17-18, Hebrews 2:14-15

2. Jesus directs us to disengage from FEAR and engage our FAITH when we face persecution.

Revelation 2:10



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The charge to “be faithful” is “a CONVICTION that creates COURAGE” – remaining true to Jesus despite opposition.

Ephesians 6:13

While victor’s crowns are awarded in athletic games to those who competed and came in first, Jesus will award victor’s CROWNS to those who remain FAITHFUL in the midst of trials and persecutions.



3. Persecution for Jesus' sake is outweighed by God's PROMISES of an ETERNITY with Him.

Revelation 2:11, Revelation 20:11-15, Revelation 21:6-8

We need not wish for persecution, but these words to these faithful followers of Jesus should INSPIRE us and grow in us the RESOLVE to be loyal to Jesus if we are, one day, persecuted because we bear His name.

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