### **God's Message for Today's Church**

# A Ten Part Series from: The Book of Revelation! Part 5. Chapter 2:8-11

(Sunday October 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 with Gympie Baptist Church)

<sup>8</sup> "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.'

Introduction:

#### Vs 8 ..... to the church in Smyrna write:

(From) 'The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

#### What the first and the last, who died and came to life knows .....

<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.

- I know your poverty (but you are rich)
- I know the slander you endure (from those who say they are the true people of God [Jews] but are not)
- I know what they claim to be and why
- I know what they really are (a synagogue of Satan)

This is what I know and what you need to know, I know! (Summary)

#### What else He knows and How he wants them to respond....

Things are not going to get any better and for some it's going to get worse...

<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.

Two clear commands in the midst of suffering and persecution: vs10

- Do not fear what you are about to suffer. (Because I know where this is really coming from (the devil) and you are going to be thrown into prison to be tested).
- o Be faithful unto death, (Because, some of you may die)

One very clear promise:

o "and, I will give you the crown of life".

The final words to the church in Smyrna is a prophetic word for all the churches:

<sup>11</sup> He who has an ear, <u>let him hear</u> what <u>the Spirit says to the churches</u>.

And this is the Word for Today!

'The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.'

## Keeping it Real by Going Deeper - This Week.

There was a lot in this week's message to think about. As you think over the sermon, I would like to encourage you to ask the following questions of the message as well as of the scriptures that were read and spoken about.

What STOOD OUT to you?

What PUZZLES you? (With this particular question if you have something that you would like raise or ask one of the pastors/elders please do so. If you do, we may even be able to address these questions in up and coming messages. I am sure others would appreciate any questions that you have raised that we might be able to answer and weave into our messages for the benefit of all).

What do we LEARN about God and his people?

How might this APPLY?