



A Study of Revelation

The Seven Churches of Asia: Revelation 1-3

December 21, 2014

The message to the church at Smyrna: Revelation 2:8-11

1. What Smyrna was like (ISBE):

- a. "A large ancient city on the western coast of Asia Minor, at the head of a gulf which reaches 30 miles inland."
- b. "Standing, as it did, upon a good harbor, at the head of one of the chief highways to the interior, it early became a great trading-center and the chief port for the export trade."
- c. "In Roman times, Smyrna was considered the most brilliant city of Asia Minor, successfully rivaling Pergamos and Ephesus. Its streets were wide and paved. Its system of coinage was old, and now about the city coins of every period are found. It was celebrated for its schools of science and medicine, and for its handsome buildings."
- d. "In the 23 AD year a temple was built in honor of Tiberius and his mother Julia, and the Golden Street, connecting the temples of Zeus and Cybele, is said to have been the best in any ancient city."
- e. "Polycarp was martyred, though without the sanction of the Roman government. It seems that the Jews of Smyrna were more antagonistic than were the Romans to the spread of Christianity, for it is said that even on Saturday, their sacred day, they brought wood for the fire in which Polycarp was burned."
- f. "Smyrna suffered frequently from earthquakes."

2. There are no biblical references to Smyrna other than in Revelation 1-3.

3. Revelation 2:8-11

- a. How is Jesus described in the message to this church? _____

- b. List three things the Lord knows about this church:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
- c. How can you be rich and poor at the same time? _____

- d. The Lord knew the blasphemy of those who said they were _____
but were really a synagogue of _____.
- e. Define "BLASPHEMY": _____
- f. What does Jesus have against this church? _____
- g. Jesus' message to encourage them to be strong:
 - i. Do not _____ things you are about to _____.
 - ii. The devil is about to throw some of you into _____.
 - iii. This will _____ you.
 - iv. You will have _____ for _____ days.
 - v. Be _____ until _____.
 - vi. There is a _____ of _____ for the faithful.
- h. Who is to hear this message? _____
- i. He who _____ shall not be hurt by the second
_____.
- j. What is the second death? _____