



BETTER THAN YOU THINK

Letter to the Church of Smyrna

Revelation 2:8 - 11

What's the aspect of the glory of Christ spoken of in verse 8?

How would this have encouraged the Christians in Smyrna?

How are you encouraged by this?

Jesus says to the Church at Smyrna, as with Ephesus, 'I know your works.' Given that He knows 'all' our works, how do you feel about this?

How does remembering this change you?

Given that He doesn't only know our works, but also our motive, what impact does this have for you?

The church at Smyrna was a persecuted church.

Given that the persecution we've seen today is nothing like 2,000 years ago, what aspects of works, poverty and persecution have been evident?

How do you think our church would stand up today if faced with the kind of persecution faced by the Church of Smyrna?

What new things would we learn about our church in that situation?

Jesus says 'be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.' What does this mean and how might it inspire and encourage us?

Verse 11 speaks about the 'second death.' It is a reference to Revelation 20:6 which says a whole lot more: "Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years."

Take time to remember of the time when you came to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour. How does this assurance strengthen and motivate you?

Maybe you don't feel certain about having been 'Born Again.' If you are uncertain, take a moment to kneel humbly before Jesus, confess your sin and your faith in Him as Lord and Saviour. And can I encourage you to get in touch with me so that I can encourage you and help you take the next steps in your journey of faith. If you are not convinced and wish to know more, you can also get in touch with me, or even visit our website where there are some short video's explaining the Gospel and the way to salvation.

oakleighbaptist.org/next-steps