

**Take Heart!**

*Revelation 2:8-11*

1. Commission v8

* The Background of the Ancient City of Smyrna
* Status Today
* History of the Church

2. Commendation v9-10

* I know your Affliction and Poverty
* Affliction = Crushing; poverty = Destitution
* But you are Rich
* Although the Christians in Smyrna were Lacking in the eyes of the world, in God’s eyes they had Everything
* Their Poverty was replaced by the true Riches of Christ
* How much better is it to be Poor in the eyes of the world but Rich before Christ?
* The Value of Spiritual Riches
* Don’t just work for that which will last for Now, but labor for that which will last for all Eternity

3. Command v10-11

* Be Faithful unto Death
* Reward: You will Receive a Crown of Life

4. Takeaways

* Suffering often comes to the people of God
* True Wealth can only be measured by how Long it lasts
* Faith, not Fear, is the proper response to Adversity
* Death does not have the Final answer; Jesus does!

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