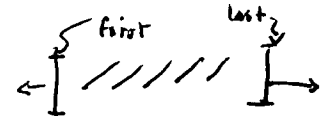


THE CHURCH IN SMYRNA

Rev. 2:8-11

And to the messenger of the church in Smyrna write: These things says the First and the Last, who became dead, and lived again: I know your tribulation and poverty, but you are rich; and the slander of those who call themselves Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. **Do not fear what you are about to suffer.** Behold, the Devil is about to cast some of you into prison that you may be tried, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall by no means be hurt of the second death.



*first undergo certain tribulations to purify us.
to be purified - purification
the backbone of transformation.
tribulations are to purify us.
truly it is to preserve.
tribulation preserves us.
don't say that because you're suffering, God is not pleased with you.
There is no evil in suffering. Joy is our inheritance, but in God Himself.
don't know what is becoming of us, if we don't arrange our circumstances so our lives will be for Him. So, don't despise sufferings. There are many vv. to substantiate this.*

I. "And to the messenger of the church in Smyrna write: These things says the First and the Last, who became dead, and lived again:"

You have to see the sovereignty of suffering. He is the First and the Last and nothing exists outside of Him. But He will not allow anything to touch you that is not within His bounds. [I am in sovereign control of your life.] - says God. You can't have a mind to suffer if you don't have a vision. We suffer for God's eternal purpose.

II. "I know your tribulation and poverty, but you are rich;"

III. "and the slander of those who call themselves Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan."

IV. "Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the Devil is about to cast some of you into prison that you may be tried,"

V. "and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life."

VI. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall by no means be hurt of the second death."

THE CHURCH IN PERGAMOS

Rev. 2:12-17

And to the messenger of the church in Pergamos write: These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword: I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and you have not denied My faith, even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells. But I have a few things against you, because you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat idol sacrifices and to commit fornication. Thus you also have those who hold in like manner the teaching of the Nicolaitans. Repent therefore; but if not, I come to you quickly, and I will war with them with the sword of My mouth. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written, which no one knows but he who receives it.

I. "And to the messenger of the church in Pergamos write: These things says He who has the sharp two-edged sword:"

II. "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is;

III. "and you hold fast My name, and you have not denied My faith, even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells."

IV. "But I have a few things against you, because you have some there who hold the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat idol sacrifices and to commit fornication."

V. "Thus you also have those who hold in like manner the teaching of the Nicolaitans."

VI. "Repent therefore; but if not, I come to you quickly, and I will war with them with the sword of My mouth."

VII. "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and on the stone a new name written, which no one knows but he who receives it."

Faith

Name

Faith

Witness

Walters

(bring us to this)

(Person)

vs. 2 teachings

(Balaam)

{ Balak }

Balaam

Now

idol

(against

forn

the body)

Antipas

Anti-(against)

pas - (deriv. of all)

thus,

"against all"

Christ's Resurrection

Christ's Second Coming

Ephesus

circa 0 -100 A.D.
"Desirable"

Smyrna

circa 100 - 325 A.D.
"Myrrh"

Pergamos

circa 325 - 575 A.D.
"Marriage"

Thyatira

circa 575 A.D. -
"Sacrifice of Perfume"
"Unceasing Sacrifice"

Sardis

circa 1525 A.D. -
"The remains"
"Remainder"

Philadelphia

circa 1825 A.D. -
"Brotherly love"

Laodicea

circa 1875 A.D. -
"Opinion of the people"

The Kingdom - 1000 year millenium

New Jerusalem - Eternity Future