

## ***Standing Firm***

### **Discipleship For Today, Part 3**

Revelation 2:8-11

January 24, 2010

We continue in our study of Revelation by looking at the second of the Jesus' messages to the seven churches, directed to the church in Smyrna. We see that ...

**The church is under intense persecution ...**

**... from cultural/political forces**

*"... your afflictions and your poverty ..." (vs. 9)*

**... from religious forces**

*"I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not ..." (vs. 9)*

**... from evil spiritual forces**

*"I tell you the truth, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you ..." (vs. 10)*

**Jesus understands**

*"I know ..." (vs. 9)*

**... because He endured persecution**

*"There are the words of Him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again." (John 15:18)*

**... because He was present with them**

*"...among the lampstands was someone 'like a son of man'..." (Rev. 1:13)*

**Jesus encourages the church ...**

**... not by eliminating the persecution**

*"I tell you the truth, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you ..." (vs. 10)*

**... by pointing to their spiritual riches**

*"... you are rich!" (vs. 9)*

**... to not be afraid**

*"Do not be afraid!" (vs. 9)*

**... to remain strong in their faith**

*"Be faithful ..." (vs. 10)*

**... by promising a blessed eternity**

*"I will give you the crown of life. ... He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death." (vs. 11)*

## ***Standing Firm***

### **Discipleship For Today, Part 3**

Revelation 2:8-11

January 24, 2010

We continue in our study of Revelation by looking at the second of the Jesus' messages to the seven churches, directed to the church in Smyrna. We see that ...

**The church is under \_\_\_\_\_ ...**

**... from \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I know your afflictions and your poverty ..." (vs. 9)*

**... from \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I know the slander of those who say they are Jews and are not ..." (vs. 9)*

**... from \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I tell you the truth, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you ..." (vs. 10)*

**Jesus understands**

*"I know ..." (vs. 9)*

**... because He \_\_\_\_\_**

*"There are the words of Him who is the First and the Last, who died and came to life again." (John 15:18)*

**... because He \_\_\_\_\_**

*"...among the lampstands was someone 'like a son of man'..." (Rev. 1:13)*

**Jesus encourages the church ...**

**... not by \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I tell you the truth, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you ..." (vs. 10)*

**... by pointing to \_\_\_\_\_**

*"... you are rich!" (vs. 9)*

**... to \_\_\_\_\_**

*"Do not be afraid!" (vs. 9)*

**... to remain \_\_\_\_\_**

*"Be faithful ..." (vs. 10)*

**... by promising \_\_\_\_\_**

*"I will give you the crown of life. ... He who overcomes will not be hurt at all by the second death." (vs. 11)*