



★ PRIORITY MAIL ★

WEEK 2 | SMYRNA | REVELATION 2:8-11

Inspection – “What does it say?”

Of what were those who said they were Jews guilty? (verse 9)

How should those who are about to suffer approach their times of trials? (verse 10)

What do those who are faithful to the point of death receive? (verse 10)

How are we to hear the Word of God? (verse 11)

From what is the faithful Christian spared? (verse 11)

Observation – “What does it mean?”

What is meant by “First and the Last” in verse 8?

How is it possible for a church in affliction and poverty to be rich?

What is meant by the phrase the “synagogue of Satan” in verse 9?

How would being thrown into prison test your faith in Jesus?

What is the “second death” in verse 11? What is the first death?

Life Application – “What does it mean for me?”

Jesus was accused of blasphemy in Matthew 26:65.

Consider how this was really the opposite?

Do a word study of “do not fear” found in your Bible and highlight for future reference.

Send a note of encouragement to a Christian struggling to keep the faith.

Spend time on the Pioneer Bible site (<https://pioneerbible.org>)

praying for those who need hear about Jesus.

Consider how the phrase “ten days” in verse 10 is meant to encourage you today.

Meditation – “What does God say?”

2 Timothy 1:7

1 Peter 5:6-7

1 John 4:8

Hebrews 13:5-6

Matthew 6:34

Joshua 1:9

Isaiah 35:4

Psalms 27:1

Supplication: What Can We Meditate?

History records that Polycarp, who was a Christian in the church in Smyrna, was burned alive at the age of 86 for refusing to worship Caesar.

Polycarp The Martyr

Polycarp was his name.

He lived a life without shame.

He was tossed into the stadium.

His only offense was confessing to be a Christian.

Surrounded by the chants of the loud people,

“Feed him to the hungry lions.”

He felt no alliance.

The crowd was as hungry as the hungry lions.

They were eager to see the sport.

To watch the lions tear him apart.

Demanding lions be set loose; upon Polycarp the martyr.

Then a shout came, “Burn Polycarp alive.”

Hearing the Angel’s harp!

Seeing the vision of a burning pillow.

Turning and looking at the eager crowd,

He said, “I must be burned alive.”

He then stripped his clothes.

This is the death he chose.

He didn’t even need to be nailed to the grid.

He was no kid.

He began to pray.

“O’ Father of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, through Whom we know You, I bless You for this day and hour, that I may, with the martyrs, share in the cup of Christ for the resurrection to eternal life of both soul and body in the immortality of the Holy Spirit. May I be received among them today as a rich and acceptable sacrifice, according to your divine fulfillment. For this reason I praise You for everything. I bless and glorify You through the eternal high priest, Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, through Whom be glory to You and the Holy Spirit, both now and in the ages to come. Amen.”

Supplication: What Can We Meditate?

When he had finished praying the fire was lit.
It is said.
There was a great blaze.
It took the shape of a room.
There was no stench; it smelled as expensive perfume.
The scent was sweet, smelling as spices.
It was the scent of the righteous.
There around his body was a billowing sail.
That surrounded the martyr's body.
When the crowd saw that no pain was reaching his body.
They cried out for the executioner to cut him with the sword.
When he did so, the blood gushed out and put the fire out.
The crowd became divided by believers and unbelievers.
That day there were many receivers of the faith.
They gathered his bones as precious stones.
To be buried in a special place where all could celebrate such martyrdom.
It was spread throughout the kingdom.
Polycarp the martyr faced the fire freely.
He was the twelfth martyr to die after the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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