***He Knows Your Name & Your Pain***

**Revelation 2: 8 – 11**

*v. 8,* “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.’”

**A Proclamation of the Deity of Jesus Christ**

*John 10: 25 – 33,* “Jesus answered, ‘I did tell you, but you do not believe… I and the Father are one.’

Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, ‘I have shown you many great miracles from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?’

‘We are not stoning you for any of these,’ replied the Jews, ‘but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.’”

*vv. 9 & 10a,* “I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are 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 throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation.”

**An Explanation for the Poverty of the Believers in Smyrna**

*2 Corinthians 4: 17 & 18,* “Our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”

*vv. 10b & 11,* “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. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.”

**A Declaration of the Eternity Awaiting Those Who Conquer**

*Matthew 5: 10 – 12,* “Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven…”