

Revelation 2:8-11

Caesar est Dominus. “Swear and I will set you free.”

I. Commission

Smyrna means _____. Izmir, Turkey is located where Smyrna once was.

They prided themselves as the _____ in Asia.

Mount Pagus, The Crown of Smyrna.

Caesar Worship

II. Commendation

Jesus reminds them “I am the First and the Last.”

He knew their circumstances (tribulation/poverty/Slander)

Tribulation

Poverty

Slander

Their culture had no problem with adding Jesus to the other gods. Their troubled was “in Christ ALONE.”

The Jews there were Jews in birth and religion but not in truth and inwardly.

Is this your Christianity?

III. Challenge

TRUTH: Jesus never promised to eliminate or alleviate our pain and suffering in this life. He did promise us that there’d be a time when sin would no longer assault us.

So, what were the believers in Smyrna to do?

They were to FEAR NOT!

They were to BE FAITHFUL!

They were to LISTEN CAREFULLY!

We are to do the same.....

Caesar non est dominus. Iesus est Dominus.