

Seven – Smyrna
(The Suffering Church)
Revelation 1:8-11
July 25, 2021

1. Jesus said I know:

- a. Your _____ . *(Rev 2:9, Luke 12:15)*
- b. Your _____ .
- c. There is a _____ that money cannot buy-
_____ that does not come from possessions,
a joy that is real _____ . *(2 Cor 8:1-4)*
- d. The _____ against you. *(Rev 2:9, Eph 4:26)*
- e. I know what you are about to _____ . *(Rev 2:10)*

2. The message of the Risen Christ.

- a. Don't be _____ . *(Rev 2:10, Mat 10:28, John 14:27, Josh 1:9)*
- b. Be _____ . *(Rev 2:11, 20:6, 14)*

3. I know what you are going through.

Questions for Thought and Discussion

1. Read Revelation 2:8-9. How does knowing the eternal nature of God help sustain someone who is being persecuted?
2. In what ways does suffering make you focus on what is truly important in life?
3. Read Revelation 2:10. Some believers might live their whole life without facing persecution while others might be risking their lives as soon as they accept Jesus. Only some were put in prison. Why do some Christians face persecution and others do not? Does this seem fair?
4. Have you ever had to face any level of persecution for your faith?
5. How are Christians supposed to endure persecution?
6. Why do you believe God allows His Church to be persecuted?