

# Smyrna – A Church Persecuted Because of Faithfulness

Revelation 2:8-11

## I. An Overtly Christ-hating World Will Attempt to Silence Faithful Churches

A – Faithful churches will face tremendous hardships

1 – They will be crushed

2 – They will be penniless

3 – They will be slandered

B – Faithful churches may never experience relief from those hardships

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## II. Our gracious Savior provides Hope to His Faithful Churches

- A – Christ knows the depths and breath of our trials
- B – Christ is sovereign over our trials
- C – Christ will not waste our trials
- D – Christ has won the victory over Satan's greatest threat - Death

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## **III. Our gracious Savior Has Certain Expectations of Faithful Churches**

**A – Do not give in to fear**

**B – Be faithful until your dying breath**