

The Church: To “Tweak” or To “Over-Haul”?

HELPFUL SCRIPTURES

SERMON NOTES

I. “*To the Angel of the Church in Smyrna . . .*,” (Revelation 2:8-11)

INTRO. : The Smyrna Church

1. The church in Smyrna may have been started during Paul’s 2-year ministry in Ephesus.

Acts 19:9-10

A. The Commendation, (vs. 8-11)

1. “*To the angel of the church in Smyrna write . . .*,” (v. 8a)

Mathew 11:10

James 2:25

Revelation 1:3

2. Jesus identifies Himself to each congregation in a way that supports the message He is sending them, (v. 8b)

- a. To the brethren in Smyrna, Jesus says, “*The first and the last, who was dead, and has come to life says...*”

Matthew 16:18

Hebrews 2:14-15

3. There are three things “Jesus Knows” about this congregation . . . ,” (v. 9)

- a. The first thing Jesus knows, “*I know your tribulation . . .*”

- b. The second thing Jesus knows, “*I know . . . your poverty (but you are rich).*”

Matthew 6:19-21

- c. The third thing Jesus knows about the members of this congregation, is, “*...the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.*”

Matthew 12:24, 31

Revelation 3:9

Matthew 10:32-33

Revelation 21:8

4. Jesus therefore teaches them how to avoid joining this “synagogue” . . . , (v. 10)

John 16:33

Hebrews 12:2

1 John 5:4

B. Exhortation and Warning, (v. 11)

1. (v. 11), “*He who has an ear to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes*”

Revelation 1:3

Revelation 21:8

Matthew 10:28

Acts 2:36-38, 41, 47