

Terry Fullam Audio Library

Scriptural References and Comment Notes

06-276-56 TRIBULATION, POVERTY & THE CROWN

:00–1:50 Recap. Three things in all seven letters: **1.** Ascription. **2.** “I Know”. **3.** Need spiritual ears.

1:50 – 8:00 Revelation 2:8-11 Reading. Background teaching on Smyrna and Roman Empire.

8:05 Revelation 2:8-11 Verse 8 – First and last, as earlier seen in Revelation 1:17. And who died and came to life again.

12:30 Verse 9 I know your Tribulation (Greek- Thlipsis meaning “Pressure”). Jesus could speak first hand of knowing pressures.

Antidote to pressure – Ephesians 3:14-16. The need for our spirit (the human spirit) to be nourished by God’s Spirit - (The Spirit of Jesus, the Holy Spirit).

Rev 2:9 I know your Poverty – Destitution. Reference Hebrews 10:34 as an indication of the sacrifices the Christians made to defend their faith. But you are rich – you have the Lord. Contrast to Revelation 3:17. The Laodicean church who thought themselves rich.

21:50 Rev. Verse 10 You will have tribulation. Reference to John 16:33. We are to expect that the world will reject us, because, the Spirit of God is at enmity with the spirit of the world. Persecuted Matthew 5:10-12 and John 15:20.

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Verse 10 Some of you will be put in prison to test you. Who is doing the testing ? Reference James 1:2-4 Trials or Temptations (Greek – peirasmos) “ a putting to the proof”. The testing of our faith develops perseverance.

27:15 Verse 10 – Be faithful unto death and you will receive the Crown of life.

Verse 11 He who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.

28:20 A reading from a letter from the church at Smyrna to another church concerning their Bishop, Polycarp. Polycarp Lived from A.D 69-155.

Rev. 2:8 “And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: ‘The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

Rev. 2:9 “‘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. 10 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. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. 11 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who conquers shall not be hurt by the second death.’

Rev. 1:17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand upon me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one; I died, and behold I am alive for evermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Eph. 3:14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with might through his Spirit in the inner man,

Heb. 10:34 For you had compassion on the prisoners, and you joyfully accepted the plundering of your property, since you knew that you yourselves had a better possession and an abiding one.

Rev. 3:17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing; not knowing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.

John 16:33 I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

Matt. 5:10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matt. 5:11 “Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

John 15:20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also.

James 1:2 Count it all joy, my brethren, when you meet various trials, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.