

Faith Problems in Smyrna

By Bob Young

Rev. 2:8-11

Introduction

Believing God is faithful helps me toward faithfulness

The New Testament reminds us that “God is faithful”: 2 Th 3:3; 1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13

General pattern for the letters to the churches

- What is known about the church (positive)
- What is known about the circumstances of the church
- A description of the problem(s) faced by the church
- Description of the needed response, often with word of encouragement
- What is going to happen (judgment)
- Promise to the overcomers

The nature of God

Eternal, first and last

Victorious, dead and now alive

All knowing, all wise

Sovereign, ten days

Purposeful, understands the nature of the test

Generous, faithful

Jesus says, “I know, I understand”

Jesus knows the victories, Jesus knows the challenges

Jesus understandings

Confidence in Christ

Don't be afraid, he never leaves, don't pretend, this is a real world statement

Be faithful, as he is faithful

Promise: “You are an overcomer”