

The Kingdom of God brought forth by "7 churches"
27 Weeks "to Grow/Prosper" This Year







Renowned for

- 1) its loyalty to Rome;
- 2) Its ritual worship of the emperor
- 3) Built the first temple dedicated to the goddess Roma
- 4) Dedicated a magnificent temple in honor of Emperor Tiberius;
- 5) A center of worship of both Rome and Caesar

Revelation 2:8-11 The Persecuted Church in Smyrna

THE CHURCHES OF REVELATION

SMYRNA THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Christ vs. Caesar

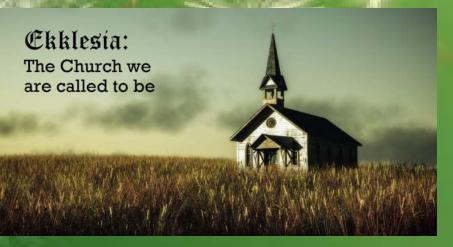


Bishop Polycarp (70-156), Christian martyr heard John's message on "Crown of Life" (Revelation 2:10)

Revelation 2:1-7 A Path to True and Authentic Church



REAL CHURCHES WITH REAL PROBLEMS - SMYRNA REVELATION 2:8-11



Revelation 2:9 (Smyrna)

I know your works, tribulation, and poverty (but you are rich); and I know the blasphemy of those who say they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.



Be faithful,

even to the point of death, and I will give you the **crown of life.**

Revelation 2:10

Those who overcome will not be hurt by the second death.

REVELATION 2:11

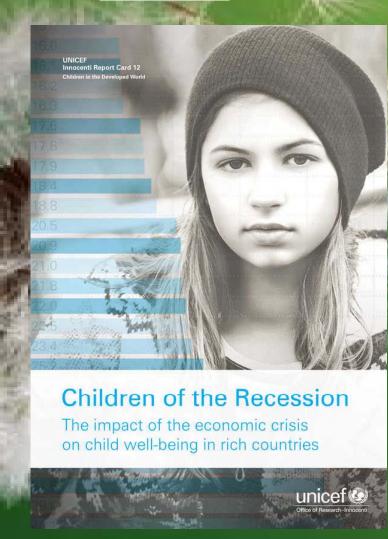


1. The risen Lord Jesus knows your <u>afflictions</u> and <u>poverty</u>.

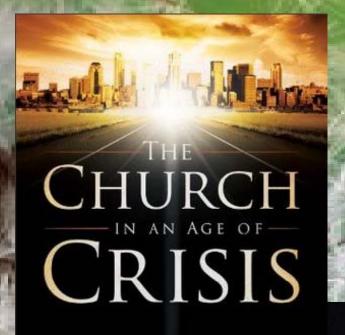
sickness discomfort spanning disease discomfort discomf

affliction





1. The risen Lord Jesus knows your <u>afflictions</u> and <u>poverty</u>.



New Realities
Facing Christianity

JAMES EMERY WHITE

James Emery White offers a look at twenty-five realities facing the church - in the areas of belief, culture, marriage and family, media and technology, and mission -and how they affect us as individuals and as a body of believers.





Four Responses to a Church Crisis

- 1. You can run.
- 2. You can pretend it isn't happening.
- 3. You can outlast the crisis.
- 4. You can learn from it.

By Joshua Reich Pastor of Revolution Church Tucson, AZ

Is your church/family in a crisis?



2. You are rich.



2.47 billion people

around the world live on

less than \$2 per day













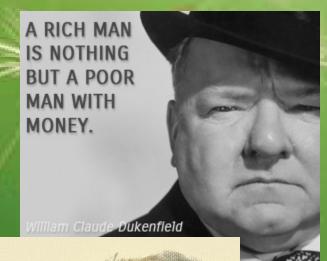
2. You are rich.



Not he who has much is rich, but he who gives much

~ Erich Fromm~

powerfulmoneyaffirmations.com



"If you were born poor its not your mistake but if you die poor its your mistake"

Bill Gates





JESUS WANTS YOU TO BE RICH

DISCOVER GOD'S UNIQUE PLAN FOR CREATING PROSPERITY AND WEALTH IN YOUR LIFE

THOMAS SHEPHERD





3. Beware of the slander, a gathering of Satan.

Some Ungodly Think They Are Godly

"I know your troubles and that you are poor, but really you are rich! I know the bad things some

they are Jews, but they are not true

Jews. They are a synagogue that belongs to Satan." Revelation 2:9c NCV



3. Beware of the <u>slander</u>, a gathering of Satan.

The Bible teaches that Satan is the author of sin. Sin is the reason we have afflictions, including death. All of our problems and our suffering are a result of man's rebellion against God. But God has provided a rescue in His Son.

~ Billy Graham

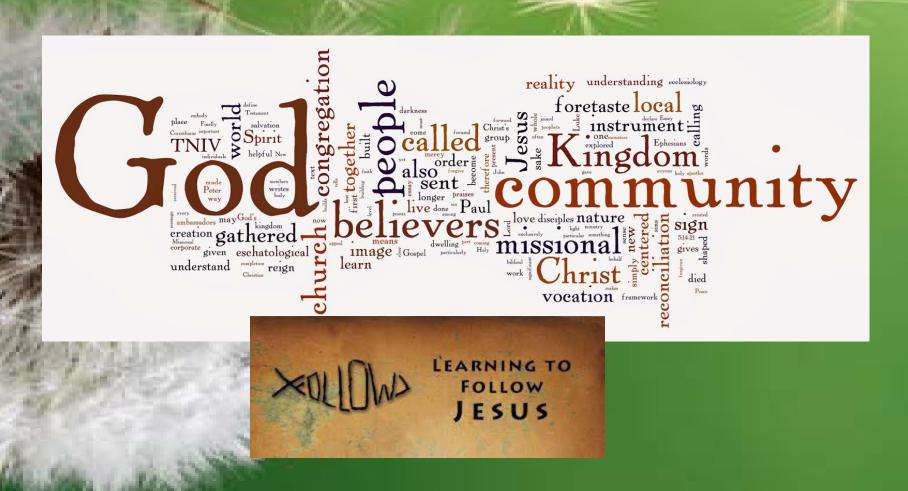
God

Stills you
Reassures you
Leads you
Enlightens you
Forgives you
Calms you
Encourages you
Comforts you

Satan

Rushes you
Frightens you
Pushes you
Confuses you
Condemns you
Stresses you
Discourages you
Worries you

3. Beware of the slander, a gathering of Satan.









"There are no crownwearers in Heaven who were not cross-bearers here below." Charles Spurgeon

4. Be faithful, and you will receive the crown of <u>life</u>.

Be faithful,

even to the point of death, and I will give you the **crown of life.**

Revelation 2:10

Like Job, a righteous man, and the Lord allowed Satan to strike him with grief and affliction in order to demonstrate Job's great faith.

He lost all his possessions, his entire family died, and his body was stricken with painful boils.