

the Seven Assemblies

IN THE BOOK OF REVELATION

#2 Smyrna



“The _____ Assembly”

City name translation:

Description of the Messiah:

Praise of the Assembly:

Fault of the Assembly:

Instructions to the Assembly:

Challenge to the Assembly:

Kingdom Parable from Matt. 13:

What's the connection?

Type of Believer:

Type of Assembly:

Phase in Church History:

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the world mischaracterize our faith and beliefs as something evil or opposite of the truth? How have those backwards comments impacted your life, relationships and reputation? How did you handle it?
2. Thomas Paine, one of America's Founding Fathers, wrote, "What we obtain too cheaply we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as freedom should not be highly rated." Unlike the wealthy Ephesian believers, those in Smyrna paid a heavy price for their faith—persecution. How does persecution increase the value and dearness of one's faith?
3. What are some reasons you would go through trials faithfully?
4. If someone was struggling with the fear of death, how would you counsel them?
5. Regarding the connection to the Kingdom Parable in Matt 13, how do the good seeds (wheat) and bad seeds (weeds) relate to the circumstances Smyrna faces as a persecuted assembly?