

When, Life is Hard

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • SEPTEMBER 5, 2021 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com.

Remember...

1. God knows what you're going through.

Revelation 2:8–9, NLT -⁸ "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Smyrna. This is the message from the one who is the First and the Last, who was dead but is now alive: ⁹ "<u>I know</u> about your <u>suffering</u>...

Revelation 2:9, NCV -⁹ <u>I know</u> your <u>troubles</u>....

Revelation 2:9, CEB -⁹ <u>I know</u> your <u>life is hard</u>....

2. God knows how you're going to get through it.

Revelation 2:9, NIV84 - ⁹ *I* know your afflictions and your poverty yet you are rich!

Revelation 2:9, MSG -⁹ "I can see your pain and poverty—constant pain, dire poverty—<u>but I also see your wealth</u>.

3. God knows who's really against you.

Revelation 2:10, NASB95 - ¹⁰ ... Behold, <u>the devil</u> is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days.

Revelation 2:10, The MSG -¹⁰ "...<u>The Devil</u> is about to throw you in jail for a time of testing—ten days. It won't last forever. "Don't quit, even if it costs you your life...."

4. "Do not fear!"

Revelation 2:10, NASB95 -¹⁰ 'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Revelation 2:10, NLT - ¹⁰ <u>Don't be afraid</u> of what you are about to suffer.

Revelation 2:10, CEB - ¹⁰ Don't be afraid of what's coming....

5. "Be faithful!"

Revelation 2:10, NASB95 -¹⁰ 'Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. <u>Be faithful until death</u>, and I will give you the crown of life.

Revelation 2:10, NCV - ¹⁰ ...But <u>be faithful</u>, even if you have to die, and I will give you the crown of life.

6. Your battle has already been won!

Revelation 2:10–11, NKJV -¹⁰ ...Be faithful until death, and I will give you <u>the crown of life</u>. ¹¹ "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes shall not be hurt by the second death." '

Revelation 2:10–11, NASB95 -¹⁰ ...Be faithful until death, and I will give you the <u>crown of life</u>. ¹¹ 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. He who overcomes will not be hurt by the second death.'