

## Revelation 2- The 7 Churches

### The Church of Smyrna

- Same as modern day Ismer, Turkey
- 40 miles north of Ephesus, beautiful city on a bay, direct trade route from India & Persia to Rome
- Celebrated for its schools of science and medicine
- Temple of Bacchus, god of wine, was there, many apostate Jews lived there
- Traditional birthplace of the poet Homer
- **The Name comes from “Myrhh”** (means “crushed”) fragrance or spice used in burial and embalming
- Represents the **Martyrs Church – AD 100-300**, Age of Polycarp, Justin Martyr, and others

1) **The Counselor 2:8** “first and last...was dead and is alive...” = the powerful one

2) **The Commendation 2:9** “I know thy works....” (told to each of the 7 churches)

○ Tribulations and \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 6:20, 2 Cor. 6:10)

▪ God said they were \_\_\_\_\_

○ Persecution (Rom. 2:28-29, John 8:44, Rev.3:9)

▪ God promised them a \_\_\_\_\_

3) **The Condemnation - NONE**

4) **The Counsel 2:10**

○ Don't fear the suffering and persecution to come

○ Estimated over \_\_\_\_\_ million saints martyred during this time period

○ “tribulation 10 days” = 10 periods of Roman persecution from AD 64- 305 under 10 different emperors that started with \_\_\_\_\_ and ended with \_\_\_\_\_

○ Ended in AD \_\_\_\_\_ by Constantine's “Edict of Toleration”

5) **The Challenge 2:11**

○ “of the second death” = the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

○ Christ rewards his servants for \_\_\_\_\_