

Lesson XI.

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH

December 10, 1916

Revelation 2:1-17. *Scripture Memory Verses, Luke 2:17, 18.

Golden Text—Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life.—Revelation 2:10 (Rev. Ver.).



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1 Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write: These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;

2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:

3 And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted.

4 Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.

5 Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.

6 But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitanes, which I also hate.

7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

8 And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

9 I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

12 And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

13 I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Sa'tan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Sa'tan dwelleth.

14 But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Ba'alam, who taught Ba'lac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication.

15 So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.

16 Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Our lesson story for last Sunday told us what the apostle John saw in a vision when he was a prisoner on the island of Patmos. Jesus appeared to John and told him many things which he told John to write in a book, so that the followers of Jesus might read and hear the things which Jesus wanted them to know.

Jesus told John to write a letter to each of the seven great churches in Asia Minor, for he had something he especially wanted to say to each of them. These churches had names which sound strange to us. They were

Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea.

Jesus praised each of the churches for what they were doing that was pleasing to him, and told them what they were doing that did not please him. Jesus knew all about the work and the trials and the patience of his people. He knew that wrong-doing had crept into some of the churches.

Our lesson tells us about three of the churches to which John wrote. The first of these churches was that at Ephesus. The people here were praised for the work which

* For correct recitation of the Scripture Memory Passages of the three Parts of List II., at one sitting for each Part, a Certificate in Colors is given. For Form of Application, apply to Rev. J. C. Robertson, our General Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Confederation Life Building, Toronto.