

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST SERIES

RLJ-799 JOHN S. TORELL DECEMBER 16, 2001
PART 3: UNTO THE ANGEL OF THE CHURCH OF SMYRNA

CHAPTER TWO: THE CITY OF SMYRNA

The first city of Smyrna was located north of Ephesus some three miles inland. It was destroyed by the Lydians about 600 B.C. and never rebuilt. The second city of Smyrna was planned by Alexander the Great, but built by his successors by the coast. It became an important seaport and was a rival to Ephesus. In 195 B.C., the city had built a temple to the goddess Roma. In 26 A.D., of the eleven cities of Asia that were competing for the right to build a temple to Emperor Tiberius, the Roman government selected Smyrna. Since Asia was a province of the Roman Empire, Smyrna was competing with other cities to be called the first city of Asia.

The Jewish leadership in Smyrna was very hostile to the Christians living there and used mob violence and looting to destroy the ability for the Christians to make a living.

There was a well organized Jewish conspiracy to find, attack, and destroy all people who had called upon the name of Jesus. **Acts 13:42-52, 14:1-6, 17:1-13**

VERSE 8

Jesus was fully aware of what was going on in the church of Smyrna and he addressed both the pastor and the angel over the church.

VERSE 9

It was clear to the Christians living in Smyrna that their suffering had not gone unnoticed in heaven. Jesus exposed the Cabalistic Jews in Smyrna who claimed to be "real followers of Abraham," but in reality worshiped the Devil. Most Christians cannot understand this unless they have been given knowledge of the Jewish writing, the Cabala. God has previously addressed this in the Bible.
Isaiah 5:11-20

Isaiah 28:14-18 (given by God around 700 B.C.); **Jeremiah 11:9-10** (given by God around 627 B.C.); **Ezekiel 22:23-31** (given by God around 592 B.C.)

The messiah of the Cabalistic Jews is the "Holy Serpent," and they are identified and blasted by John the Baptist and Jesus. **Matthew 3:1-12, 12:22-34**

It was King Solomon who took the ancient writings of the Cabala and developed them further until it had become the system of the Antichrist. Solomon's "holy" number was 666 and we evidence of this in **1 Kings 10:14-20, 11:1-12**. The Jewish people living at the time of Christ as well as the apostles had full knowledge of the Cabala and its teaching.



Let's look at **Revelation 13:5-8, 16-18**. When Jesus told the Apostle John to write down the number of the beast, all Jews living at that time knew exactly what it meant. John was astonished when he saw the Jewish World Government system in full power during the end times because the temple had been destroyed together with the city of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. along with all the Jewish genealogy records destroyed. **Revelation 17:1-7**

VERSE 10

Jesus did not say that He would intervene and rescue the Smyrna Christians from persecution; instead, He told them to be faithful unto death!

VERSE 11

Jesus told them there will be a special crown of life for those who die for His sake.

Do you have an ear to hear with?