**These Perilous Times**

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**Loyalty to Whom?**

**(Part IV)**

“Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: Behold the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and you shall have tribulation *ten days* (Ten years-in Bible prophecy 1day= 1literal year see Num. 14:34; Ezek. 4:6) *be thou faithful unto to death*, and I will give you a crown of life.” Rev. 2:10 KJV

**What does this mean for us?**

**Obvious Signs Do Tell The Season**

 Prophetically and historically speaking, the message of Revelation 2: 8-11 is addressing the church located in Smyrna (now South-western Turkey). The historical time frame is approximately A.D. 100-313. However, we know that we are also living in perilous times and *our Lord and Savior told us* of horrible things that are to come upon the earth, especially for those loyal to Him and His Word!

“These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble. They will put you out of synagogues; yes, *the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service*. And these things they will do to you because they have not known the Father nor Me. But these things I have told, that when the time comes, that you may remember that I told you of them….” John 16:1-4 NKJV

**Counsel from God’s inspired messenger**

 “The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger-a faith that will not faint, though severely tried… ‘The time of trouble such as never was,’ is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess, and which we are too indolent to obtain. It is often the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal.” [[1]](#footnote-1)

 “As Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon issued a decree that all who would not bow down and worship the image should be killed, so a proclamation will be made that all who will not reverence the Sunday institution will be punished with imprisonment and death…Let all read carefully the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, for it concerns every human agent, great and small…The time of trouble is about to come upon the people of God. Then it is that the decree will go forth forbidding those who keep the Sabbath of the Lord to buy or sell, and threatening them with punishment, and even death, if they do not observe *the first day of the week* as the Sabbath. [[2]](#footnote-2)

**Good News!**

“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch

over the sons of *your people*; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never

was since there was a nation, even to that time. *And at that time your people shall be delivered,*

*everyone who is found written in the book*.” Daniel 12:1 NKJV (Italics supplied)



1. E. C. White. Last Day Events, p. 254. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Ibid. p. 257. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)