

Embrace
Holy
Living

RE- FLECTING GOD

07/18/16 - Christ's Power Enables

RG AUDIO 071816

Revelation 2:8-11

Suffering is difficult. Just saying the word can invoke feelings of distress, misery or emotional pain. Our world is always on a collision course between righteousness and evil, suffering is inevitable. Jesus told all his disciples, "In this world you will have trouble" (John 16:33b).

The Apostle Paul suffered more than most for the cause of Christ and always considered it a blessing. He never complained. He confidently proclaimed, "I can do all things through Christ, who gives me strength" (Philippians 4:13). He realized his inner strength to overcome any adversity came from Jesus and that His internal power was greater than any external force.

What can the Christian count on in times of suffering or persecution? Revelation 2 reminds us: Jesus knows our afflictions; Jesus knows our poverty; Jesus knows any lies about us; and Jesus knows about our sufferings.

Christ doesn't exempt us from suffering; He enables us to face it victoriously.

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