

Doctrinal Studies
UNIQUE PEOPLE OF SMYRNA – Revelation 2:9

1. The spiritual status of the believers in Smyrna is stated in Revelation 2:9.
2. They were suffering greatly and God knew it.
3. I know (οἶδα – Perfect tense of *OIDA*) is divine knowledge, referring to omniscience (He knows every thought, motive, decision, and action of every person in the human race).
4. This church contributed to 350 years of glory for the Roman Empire. Millions were led to personal knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ; people of all races and of all countries.
5. Even though these folk are in a state of poverty, they possess something that very few people in history actually possess – *unique maturity*.
6. People today are often so selfish, self-centered, so preoccupied with the insignificant things of life that they reject what is really important – *the THINKING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST*.
7. People fail to realize that *they themselves* hold the solution to the problems of the world.
8. A number of believers in Smyrna had things right – they stayed with God's Word, and thus, *they were RICH*.

Look again at Revelation 2:9 – *"I know your tribulation and the poverty, but you are rich, and the blasphemy of the ones calling themselves Jews and they are not, but a synagogue of Satan."*

Perfect tense in OIDA means that our Lord knew, and continues to know, all our circumstances. And He classifies these people, though without money, as rich.

Why do we think that when we die we are gone, unable to comprehend? Our souls go on forever! We must realize this; we must realize what rich means! And it isn't money, as we can see by what our Lord said in His message to the people of Smyrna.

Also He knows of the blasphemy of the self-proclaimed Jews (who aren't), who are of the Synagogue of Satan.