**First Baptist Church of Columbus**

**Dr. Paul Large, Pastor**

**Sermon Notes Outline for video posted October 4, 2020**

**T I T L E: LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN IN A WORLD HOSTILE TO CHISTIANITY**

**T E X T: Revelation 2:8-11**

LIVING AS A CHISTIAN IN A WORLD HOSTILE TO CHRISTIANITY

1. **…SHOULD NOT CATCH US AS SURPRISE AND CERTAINLY NOT**

**WITHOUT ENDURING HOPE BECAUSE OF 0F Christ who endured the pinnacle of persecution before us and emerged as the ultimate victor. v.8**

A. The PERSECUTION of Christians in any era is a PROPHECY BEING FULFILLED

B. The Lord’s message to the persecuted church in Smyrna is a message of ‘hang in there” with an undaunting hope because I have overcome the world, especially any world hostile towards Christianity.

**II. …INVOLVES A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF UNCERTAINITY AND THUS A NEED FOR SOBER MINDED AND CAUTIOUS DISERNMENT BECAUSE ALTHOUGH PERSUCUTION IS TO BE EXEPECTED WE OFTEN DO NOT KNOW HOW OR WHEN IT IS GOING TO EMERGE. V. 9**

**III. …MAY INVOLVE THE NEED TO BE TO BE UNDAUNTINGLY LOYAL TO CHRIST EVEN TO THE POINT OF DEATH WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENDURING THE** **CRITICISMS OF A RUMOR MILL** V.9.

1. Christians can be undaunting loyal to Christ in the midst of persecution when they recognize that there is no comparison in value between spiritual riches and temporal riches.
2. Undaunting loyalty to Christ in some instances may have to endure unfair and/or unjust criticism prompted by those who are hostile to Christ and Christianity V 9b. 10