



Pastor David Culver

Christians are granted and

called by God to suffer.

JESUS' IDENTIFICATION (8b). To Smyrna, Jesus was:

- “The first and the last,” speaking of his _____ and sovereignty.
- “Who died and came to life.” Jesus did die, but he’s _____!

JESUS' EVALUATION (9). Jesus said, “I know...”

- Your _____ (or affliction).
- Your _____.
- The _____/blasphemy of deceivers. They accused Christians of:
 - Being _____
 - Practicing lustful and immoral _____
 - Being _____
 - Being disloyal to the _____
 - Being religious bigots/_____

JESUS' EXHORTATION (10-11)

- Be _____ Trials test us for our own good. How?
 - To learn _____
 - To build _____
 - To be a sacrifice of _____
 - To _____ others
 - To prevent _____
- Be _____
 - How long?
 - Why? _____

So, what? If you are suffering as a Christian:

- Jesus knows all about your suffering and is _____ you.
- If things stay the same, there is no reason to _____ or flee.
- If things get worse, Jesus will neither leave nor _____ you.
- And remember, the _____ is yet to come!