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Msg# 1202 Jesus, The First and The Last

What The Bible Says - Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

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What The Bible Says

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"And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive." Jesus' seven salutations contain an emphasis needed for each particular local Church. Smyrna means 'myrrh' and resonates with the gathering gloom of death. In persecutions unto death we are addressed by the First and the Last. Isaiah says "Who hath wrought and done it, calling the generations from the beginning? I the LORD, the first, and with the last; I am he." again, "Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God." Jehovah and his Redeemer are one and are the first and the last. Again "Hearken unto me, O Jacob and Israel, my called; I am he; I am the first, I also am the last" The God of Israel is this same first and last. When a Christian names the "Diet of his choice" as a liberal president put it, he names the Lord Jesus Christ. We worship the Lord Jesus Christ as our Jehovah God and Supreme Creator. Mormons don't; JW's don't; Christians do. Politicians and other infidels refuse us to even publicly pray in his name. "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake." ... "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you." ... "I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." You will be persecuted for it, but keep the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in your conversation this week.

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