The Church at Thyatira, *continual sacrifice*Promises to the Overcomer (Rev. 2:26-29)

- **I.** Even within a predominately unsaved organization there is always the potential of a saint amongst it (1 Jn. 5:4-5).
 - 1. "The one overcoming even the one guarding My works up to the end...".
 - 1) Statement of fact.
 - 2) Not conditional.
 - 2. Christ's work—the once and for all sacrifice (Heb. 10:12 *cf.* Rev. 2:20).
 - 1) The Gospel for salvation is based on Christ's work (1 Cor. 15:1-4).
 - 2) The enabling to believe the Gospel is given by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 3:5; Gal. 3:22; Phil. 1:28-29).
 - 3. Divinely given belief in the Gospel means the believer conceptually comprehends the saving power inherent in the work of Christ—makes it real, concrete (Heb. 11:1).
 - 4. Therefore, a person who doubts their salvation is:
 - 1) Being attacked by Satan, or
 - 2) Never appropriated the fact of the saving work of Christ: hence fake faith (1 Cor. 15:2).
 - 5. A genuine belief in the Gospel cannot be reneged upon—once appropriated, it is done—born again, *etc*.
 - 1) Perceived exceptions: duress, torture like during the Spanish Inquisition, *etc*.
 - 2) This was the trial at Smyrna (Rev. 2:10).
- II. Authority over the Nations.
 - 1. To shepherd with a rod of iron.
 - 2. Co-rule with Christ over the nations.
 - 1) Not over Israel (Ez. 34:23-24; 2 Sam. 7:12-13; 22:51; Lu. 32-33; Jer. 23:5-6).
 - 2) "Nations" means Gentiles
 - 3) Co-rule with Christ (Ps. 2:6-9; 2 Thes. 1:5-10 *cf.* Zech. 14:5; 2 Tim. 2:12; 1 Cor. 6:2).
 - 3. Falsity—that we will co-inherit with Christ (Rom. 8:17).
 - 1) We are co-heirs with the rest of the Church.
 - 2) We all get the same inheritance, not all Christ gets.