Our Commitment to the Lord
Rev. 2:10

Introduction:
A. Need words of Jesus in times of trouble (vv. 9, 10).
B. Need words of Jesus in times of ease (cf. Rev. 3:17).
C. Words of Jesus summarize our commitment to the Lord.
D. Let us look at three elements of this commitment:

Discussion:

I. The Nature of Our Commitment — “Be faithful.”
A. “The Lord does not require perfection, but he does require faithfulness” (Donald Camp)
B. Faithfulness embraces several ideas:
   1. Having and practicing the faith (Compare KJV and ASV on Tit. 1:6).
   2. Trustworthy, dependable, reliable (Thayer, “Old Faithful”)
   3. Loyalty and fidelity.
   4. Is car faithful that runs half the time? An employee who shows up half the time?
C. Our Lord is faithful (1 Cor. 1:9; 10:13; 2 Thess. 3:3).
D. Our Lord rewards the faithful (Matt. 25:21-23).
E. Responsibility for teachings belongs to the faithful (1 Tim. 1:12; 2 Tim. 2:2).
F. Faithful are only limited by ability and opportunity.

II. The Extent of Our Commitment — “Unto Death.”
A. “Unto” (KJV) and “until” (NKJV).
   1. Unto suggests extent — “even to the point of death” (NIV).
   2. Until suggests duration — To the last breath.
C. “Unto death” leaves no room for trivial excuses.

III. The Goal of Our Commitment — “Crown of Life.”
A. Called crown of “righteousness”, “glory” and “life” (2 Tim. 4:8; Jas. 1:12; 1 Pet. 5:4).
B. It is a crown of victory for those who fight, strive and struggle.
C. It is heaven itself.
   2. Compare 1 Cor. 9:25 with 1 Cor. 15:50-52; 1 Pet. 1:4).
D. Every other goal in life must be subordinate to this one goal.
   1. Nothing should hinder it.
   2. Everything should facilitate it.

Conclusion:
A. It not enough to just “get baptized”
B. One must be faithful unto death.