



ROARING LAMB
A STUDY OF

revelation



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revelation

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**A CHURCH THAT
PERSISTENTLY**

revelation 2:8-11

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“If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you...Remember the word I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you...In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

(John 15:18, 20; 16:33)



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“Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.”

(Acts 14:22)

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“Indeed, all who desire to live
godly in Christ Jesus will be
persecuted.”

(2 Timothy 3:12)



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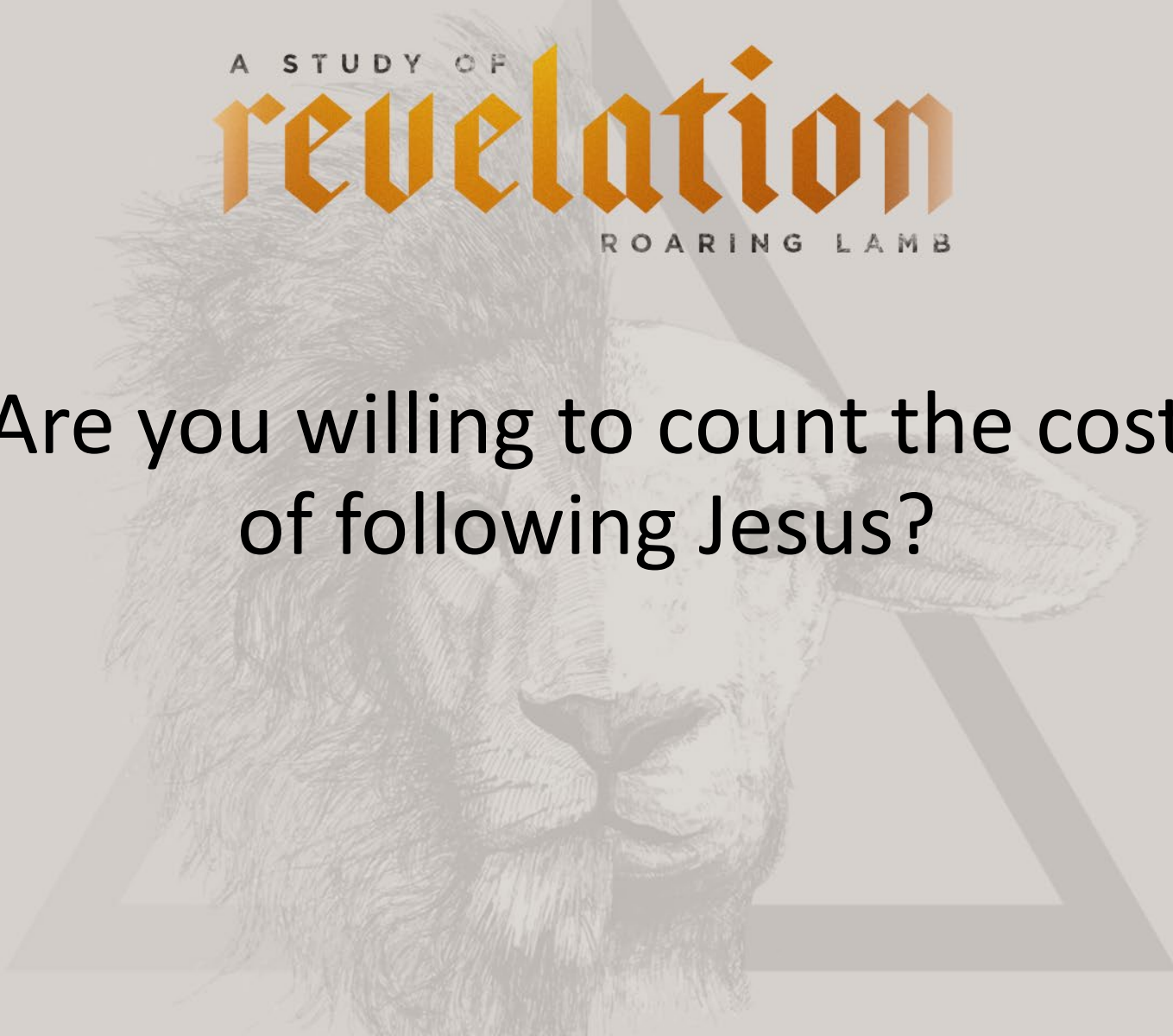


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Living for Jesus invites the
promised opportunity to
suffer for Jesus.

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Are you willing to count the cost
of following Jesus?





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**A CHURCH THAT
PERSEVERES**

revelation 2:8-11

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A Church That Perseveres:

1. Worships a Sovereign Savior
2. Worships an Eternal King

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A Church That Perserveres:
**1. Worships a Sovereign Savior
(Revelation 2:8-9)**



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1. A Sovereign Savior

Smyrna means “bitter” and is related to the word “myrrh,” which was a sweet perfume used to cover dead bodies.

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1. A Sovereign Savior

As the First and Last, Jesus is describing his eternality, which reveals his divinity.

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1. A Sovereign Savior

“The full nature and character of God.”



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1. A Sovereign Savior

“The full nature and character of God.”

- The nature of God simply means, *what God is.*

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1. A Sovereign Savior

“The full **nature** and **character** of God.”

- The nature of God simply means, *what God is.*
- The character of God simply means, *why God does.*



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1. A Sovereign Savior

Jesus is reminding them that as the one “who was dead” he also entered into human history and became like one of us.

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1. A Sovereign Savior

As a Sovereign Savior (*first and last / who was dead*), Jesus is reminding us that there is no inch of ground, or one second of time, that he is not reigning or ruling!

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1. A Sovereign Savior

God always takes care of us – because in his provisions over death itself, his resurrection has victoriously accomplished everything we could ever need!



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- A Church That Perserveres:
1. Worships a Sovereign Savior
(Revelation 2:8-9)
 - 2. Worships an Eternal King
(Revelation 2:10-11)**

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2. An Eternal King

Satan is everything that God is not: the very meaning of his name is “adversary” and his **nature** is to lie and his **character** is to steal, kill, and destroy (**John 10**)

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2. An Eternal King

He says in verse 10 that all of this is occurring, “...so that you will be tested.”

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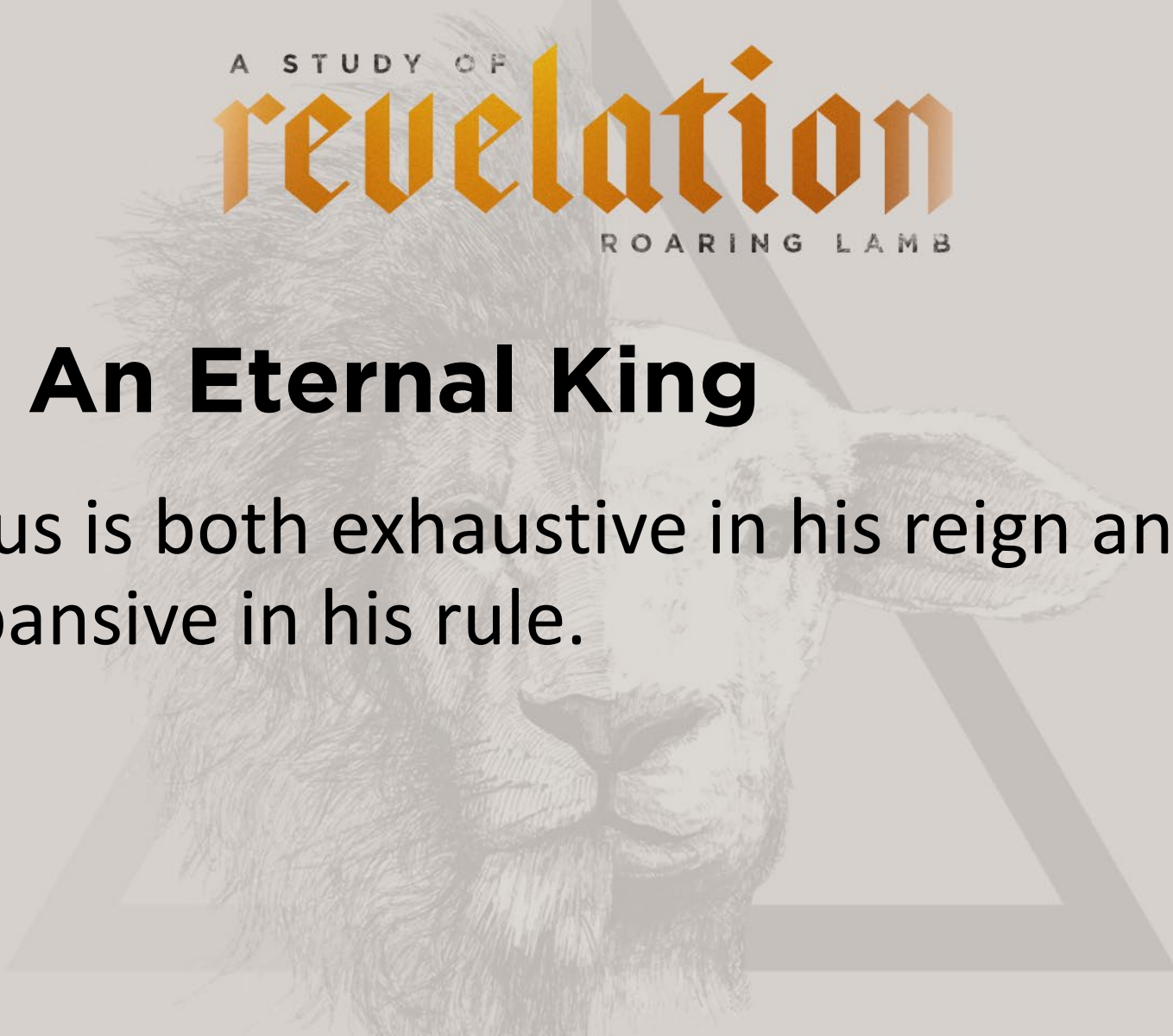
“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: ‘Mine!’”

(Abraham Kuyper)

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2. An Eternal King

Jesus is both exhaustive in his reign and expansive in his rule.



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“Remember this, and be assured, recall it to mind, you transgressors. Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, ‘My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.’”

(Isaiah 46:8-10)



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2. An Eternal King

It is through the testing of trials that our faith grows, our likeness becomes more like Christ, and our testimony enhances the glory of God.

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“Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

(Matthew 10:28)

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2. An Eternal King

The “second death” is eternal and results in either the paradise of God or separation from God.



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In just the last year (2020), there have been:

- Over 260 million Christians living in places where they experience high levels of persecution
- 2,983 Christians killed for their faith
- 9,488 churches and other Christian buildings attacked
- 3,711 believers detained without trial, arrested, sentenced or imprisoned



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