

Joyful Are: "The Persecuted"
Matthew 5:1-12
Page # 960

1. We are humbled.
2. We confess Godly sorrow.
3. We become gentle in spirit.
4. We hunger for God and His ways.
5. We overflow with mercy.
6. We walk in purity.
7. We become peacemakers.
8. We are joyfully persecuted for Christ.

I. Persecution is to be expected for the Godly.

John 15:18-21 Page # 1079

Galatians 4:28-29 Page # 1167

2 Timothy 3:10-12 Page # 1192

Compromise

Isolate

Engage

II. Persecution comes to us at different times and in distinct ways.

Job 1:12 - ...Then the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that Job has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him..."

Acts 9:15-16 - ... "Go, for (Paul) is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake."

Hebrews 11:36-38 - "...they had mockings and scourgings,chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented; of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth."

Matthew 5:10-12

1. Death
2. Physical mistreatment
3. Verbal insults
4. False accusations

III. Persecution brings rewards.

1. God's kingdom belongs to us.
2. Great is our reward in heaven.

Faith Sheet

Main Themes

- ~ Persecution is to be expected for all believers some time in our life.
- ~ Persecution for Christ reveals we are truly His.
- ~ Those persecuted will be rewarded by the Lord Himself.

#1- Reviewing this Past Sunday Joyful are: "The Persecuted" Matthew 5:1-12

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12. Discuss Sunday's message with someone.
2. Read Romans 8:16-18. What does suffering for righteousness reveal about us?
3. What types of persecution are you willing to endure for walking with Christ?
What are you afraid of when it comes to persecution or mistreatment?
4. Read Hebrews 11:30-40 and discuss what you see about genuine faith and persecution. Pray for those being persecuted.

2- Preparing for Next Sunday Abiding in Christ as a Church John 15:1-17

1. Read John 15:1-17.
2. To abide means to dwell or remain. It is a command to stay living in faith and dependence upon the Lord. What are two major results of the abiding life?
(vs 7-8)
3. What does "much fruit" look like in a family and a church?
4. Why did Jesus speak the truths He spoke? (vs.11) What does this mean for us in our daily reading of Scripture?
5. In what way are we to love one another? (vs 12-14)
6. Pray for MCC to be used to bear much fruit.