



Matthew 5:10-12, English Standard Version

¹⁰ *“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

¹¹ *“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

Matthew 5:10-12, The Message

¹⁰ *“You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.*

¹¹⁻¹² *“Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don’t like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.*

International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Christian Persecution

It is related to standing for _____ and for _____.

It is to be considered _____ not _____.

Key Verses related to personal persecution:

Matthew 5: 10-12 and I Peter 4:12-16,19

Observations:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Responses

Consider yourself _____ and _____.

Trust that God will use the persecution for _____.

Be joyful as activated by the _____ _____.

Next week: Pastor Stephen LeBar — A Psalm of Thanksgiving, Psalm 116:12-19.