

BLESSED?

**Jesus offers a counter-cultural
commentary on whom God
bestows His blessings.**

Matthew 5:10

Jesus tells us WHO is blessed

*God blesses those who are persecuted
for doing right...*

He tells us HOW they're blessed

...for the Kingdom of God is theirs.

Suffering Spirit

...enduring difficulties for Christ; you might be mocked, ridiculed, criticized, or ostracized. Persecution can affect your mind, body, and spirit.

Luke 21:12-19

Why Are Christians Persecuted?

Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. – 2 Tim. 3:12

**The world reacts because we
are no longer like them.**

John 15:19

Why Are Christians Persecuted?

*Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ
Jesus will be persecuted. – 2 Tim. 3:12*

**The world refuses to accept
the authority of God.**

John 15:20

Why Are Christians Persecuted?

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**The world rejects the power of
God and truth of Jesus.**

John 15:21

Why Are Christians Persecuted?

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**The world reeks of sin and
scoffs at righteousness.**

John 15:22

“the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs”

A Special Confidence

Apostles rejoiced at being worthy to suffer. | Acts 5:41

A Special Consolation

The more we suffer, the more God comforts. | 2 Cor. 1:5

A Special Closeness

Insults lead to God’s Spirit resting upon us. | 1 Pet. 4:14

“the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs”

Bookends of Blessings

*poor and realize their need for him
& persecuted for doing right*

DESPERATION ↔ FERVENCY

If you're living your life as a Christian, persecution is inevitable. But God will meet you when you're attacked for His name's sake...

You don't wake up one day and experience persecution; it comes when you start standing up for Jesus.

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B L E S S E D !

