

THE (BE)ATTITUDES "The (BE)Attitude of Perseverance" Matthew 5:10-12 July 24, 2022

Our Attitude: Perseverance in persecution

- 1) The sad <u>reality</u> Luke 6:26
- 2) The sobering <u>truth</u>
 - 2 Timothy 3:12; Philippians 1:29; 1 John 3:13; I Peter 3:13-18;
 - 1 Peter 4:12; Acts 14:22; John 15:18-21; 1 Thessalonians 3:3-4
- 3) What it means to be persecuted
 - a) Physical harm
 - b) Slander you
 - c) Revile you
 - d) Excluded, passed over, or missed out

Our Appeal – To rejoice greatly

Acts 5:41; I Peter 1:6-7 4:13-14

Our Assurance & Hope: The kingdom of Heaven & a great reward

- 1) The presence of Jesus <u>now</u> Daniel 3:24
- 2) The perspective of eternity Hebrews 11:26; Matthew 6:19-21, 33; 2 Corinthians 4:17; 2 Thessalonians 1:5-7
- 3) The <u>promise</u> of the <u>reward</u> Colossians 3:24; 2 Timothy 4:7-8; Revelation 22:12

Our Application: The Marks

- 1) We are in good company
- 2) It is one of the defining marks of being a Christ Follower
- 3) We are <u>marked</u> people by the <u>enemy</u>
- 4) We pass our <u>faith</u> down to the next generation
- 5) We are willing to <u>die</u> to ourselves so we can <u>live</u> for Him

Response Questions:

- 1. Would you agree or disagree? The church & Christians in America are experiencing persecution. Why or why not?
- 2. How can a person rejoice greatly when facing persecution?
- 3. Have you ever experienced persecution for living righteously? Describe it, what you learned, and how you moved through it.
- 4. Why should persecution be a defining mark of a Christ Follower?
- 5. Why is the great reward worth it in the end for suffering persecution?