

Attitude Check
Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted
Pastor Steve

Key Verses of the Day

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5:10-12 NIV

Key Thought of the Day

Persecution in our life is inevitable, if we live out the _____
taught in the beatitudes.

Two Types of Persecution

1. Persecution from the _____ we live in.

Reality Check

Jesus is saying, Persecution is simply a reality for people who are part of my Kingdom, so you know what I'm going to do when that happens? I'm going to _____!

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Two Types of Persecution

2. Persecution from the World in the _____.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you...

"Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?" Matthew 7:3 NIV

Ways Christians Eat Their Own

1. _____.

Legalism Defined

Legalism is seeking to achieve _____ from God and acceptance by God through my _____ to God.

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV

Legalism is a _____ theology.

The Problem With Legalism

Legalism is demonstrated by people trying to _____ their personal convictions on others in areas where the bible does not teach a specific belief or practice, or in areas that should be open for interpretation.

Colossians 2:16-17, 20-23

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Colossians 3:1 NIV

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

Ways Christians Eat Their Own

2. _____.

People who are judgmental don't notice behavior and circumstances in other people's lives so that they they can _____ them in their faith.... They notice those things so that they can _____ about themselves.

Do not judge, or you too will be judged. For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. — Jesus Matthew 7:1-2 NIV

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. Matthew 5:10-12 NIV

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Matthew 16:24 NIV

The Promise of the Blessing

1. The Kingdom of Heaven is _____!

...for theirs is the kingdom of heaven...

- Sometimes in the midst of persecution God _____ us from it.
- Sometimes in the midst of persecution God _____ us to endure it.

The Promise...

2. We will receive a great _____!

Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven....

robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Revelation 7:9-14 NIV

The Promise...

3. We receive _____!

... for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

A blessing in persecution is the affirmation of our faith, because it reminds us that we are in _____.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. — Jesus

The Bottom Line

You are blessed when people persecute you because it demonstrates your heart is _____!

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. 2 Corinthians 4:7-9 NIV