



WHAT **JESUS** SAID ABOUT...

**8. BLESSED ARE THE
PERSECUTED FOR
RIGHTEOUSNESS' SAKE
(MT. 5:10-12)**



WHAT **JESUS** SAID
ABOUT...

10 “Blessed are those who have
been persecuted for the sake of
righteousness, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven.”

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

A. Jesus blesses any who will endure persecution for His sake with a rejoicing spirit.

Persecution includes being penalized or harmed socially, verbally, financially, or physically. Most persecution in the West is social, verbal, or financial, by being reviled, resisted, or ostracized.

B. Jesus warns His people to expect persecution and tells us how to respond to it.

(Jn. 15:18-25)

John 15:18-25 (NASB)

18 “If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things they will do to you for My name's sake, because they do not know the One who sent Me.

22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 He who hates Me hates My Father also. 24 If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have both seen and hated Me and My Father as well.

25 But they have done this to fulfill the word that is written in their Law, 'They hated Me without a cause.'

Three blessings that come for enduring persecution with a rejoicing heart are as follows:



WHAT **JESUS** SAID ABOUT...

1. Persecution produces
perseverance and godly character
in us in this age (Rom. 5:3-5).



WHAT **JESUS** SAID
ABOUT...

Romans 5:3-5(NASB)

3 And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; 4 and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; 5 and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

2. The Spirit of glory rests on those who are being persecuted (1 Pet. 4:12-14).



WHAT **JESUS** SAID ABOUT...

1 Peter 4:12-14 (NASB)

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;

13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation. 14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

3. Great eternal rewards will be received in the age to come (Rom. 8:17-18; 2 Cor. 4:16-18).



WHAT **JESUS** SAID ABOUT...

Romans 8:15-18 (NASB)

15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received [b]a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, “Abba! Father!”

16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

2 Corinthians 4:1-18 (NASB)

1 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, 2 but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 5 For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;

8 we are afflicted in every way,
but not crushed; perplexed, but
not despairing; 9 persecuted, but
not forsaken; struck down, but
not destroyed; 10 always
carrying about in the body the
dying of Jesus, so that the life of
Jesus also may be manifested in
our body.

11 For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. 12 So death works in us, but life in you.

13 But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed, therefore I spoke," we also believe, therefore we also speak,

14 knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you. 15 For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.

16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. 17 For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison