

Points To Remember

DATE: June 1, 2008
TITLE: "The Joy of Persecution"
TEXT: Matthew 5:10-12
SERIES: *Life in God's Kingdom*
SPEAKER: Pastor Bill Thompson

INTRODUCTION

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Is this Beatitude relevant to today? **YES!**

1. Current _____ occurrences of persecution.
2. The _____ teaching on persecution.

LIFE IN GOD'S KINGDOM IS CHARACTERIZED BY _____ IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH BRINGS GREAT BLESSING.

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I. THE _____ FOR PERSECUTION.

"because of righteousness" = "because of me"

It is a person's _____ with Jesus Christ that brings on persecution.

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first." John 15:18

II. THE _____ TO PERSECUTION.

"Rejoice and be glad"

Why?

1. Persecution shows that we are _____ of the kingdom of heaven.
2. Persecution brings a great _____ in heaven.
3. Persecution puts us in _____ company.

CONCLUSION

Are you on good terms with Jesus or the world?

Find out more about persecuted Christians in the world today at www.persecution.com