

BLESSED ARE THE PERSECUTED

Series: *The Beatitudes*

– Matthew 5:10-12 –

Two paradoxes related to persecution:

I. PERSECUTION IS A _____

1. Because of the _____ we live

2. Because of the _____ we love

II. PERSECUTION BRINGS _____

1. It confirms _____

2. It cultivates _____

3. It confers _____

Application Questions. . .

1. What especially spoke to you in this passage?
2. How has your life changed as a result of your faith in God? What has your faith cost you?
3. If someone were to tell you that God promises a trouble free life to those who are true Christians, how would you respond? What are you struggling with most right now?
4. How do you explain why God sometimes delivers you out of hardships, but at other times He allows you to go through them?
5. How is rejoicing in suffering different from just enduring suffering?
6. In what ways have you experienced persecution for living righteously?
7. Do your friends and acquaintances know you are a follower of Christ?
8. Read Matt. 5:13-16. What are you doing in your friendships, at work, in your community to be “salt” and “light” for Jesus? Has your salt “become tasteless” or is your light “under a basket” because of fear of insult or persecution?