

The Blessing No One Wants

Matthew 5:10-12

Question #1 - What is Christian Persecution?

...Christians in 60 countries face persecution for their faith.

Question #2 - Why are Christians persecuted and hated?

v. 10 ...for righteousness sake

v. 11 ...for My sake

2 Timothy 3:12

John 15:18-19

John 3:20

Question #3 - Why is it that I do not experience much hostility?

Reason 1 ...I live in a country that is still somewhat tolerant society.

Reason 2 ...It may be that your light is hidden under a bushel basket.

Questions #4 - How should we respond to persecution?

v. 12 rejoice and be glad.

Six reasons why we are blessed...

1. Suffering through hostility is proof that you are saved.

1 Peter 1:7

2. Suffering through hostility has eternal consequences.

Romans 8:17

3. Suffering through hostility we are given new opportunities to witness for Christ.

Phillipians 1:12

4. Suffering through hostility reveals where we are walking.

Matthew 5:44

5. Suffering through hostility will purify our lives.

Zachariah 13:9

6. Suffering through hostility will be rewarded.

James 1:12