

ULaity Missionary Baptist Church Bible Study

October 23, 2021

Subject: Enduring Persecution with Perseverance.

Definitions:

Persecution - to make miserable, keep down or torment, to cause suffering. (Physical and Mental)

Perseverance – to remain committed to what you believe in troubling times.

I. Where does persecution come from?

Some causes of Persecution.

**A. Man's sinful nature practiced against his fellow man
Galatians 4:28-29.**

²⁸Now we, brethren, as Isaac *was*, are children of promise.

²⁹But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him *who was born* according to the Spirit, even so *it is* now.

B. Persecution happens because of the ignorance of God's Will.

John 15:22.

²²If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin.

John 16:1-3.

¹"These things I have spoken to you, that you should not be made to stumble.

²They will put you out of the synagogues; yes, the time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service.

³And these things they will do ☒ to you because they have not known the Father nor Me.

C. Persecution happens because Christ Jesus and the Gospel of Christ Jesus is not accepted.

1 Thessalonians 2:14-15.

¹⁴For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they *did* from the Judeans,

¹⁵who killed both the Lord Jesus and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they do not please God and are contrary to all men,

D. Godly living.

2 Timothy 3:12.

¹²Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

E. The misguided passions and obsessions of individuals. Acts 26:9-11.

⁹Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

¹⁰This I also did in Jerusalem, and many of the saints I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I cast my vote against *them*.

¹¹And I punished them often in every synagogue and compelled *them* to blaspheme; and being exceedingly enraged against them, I persecuted *them* even to foreign cities.

II. What should be our thoughts toward persecution?

The Christian Attitude in Persecution.

A. Rejoice in and endure in Persecution.

Matthew 5:11-12.

¹¹"Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.

¹²Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

1 Corinthians 4:12.

¹²And we labor, working with our own hands. Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure;

B. Glorify God in times of Persecution.

1 Peter 4:16 -17.

¹⁶Yet if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this ☒matter.

¹⁷For the time *has come* for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if *it begins* with us first, what will *be* the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

C. Pray for those who persecute us. Matthew 5:43-44.

⁴³"You have heard that it was said, '*You shall love your neighbor*'☒ and hate your enemy.'

⁴⁴☒But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

III. How do we as Christians persevere?

Overcoming Persecution through the Persistent Application of the Gospel of Christ.

A. We must Practice our Spiritual growth in Christ.
Ephesians 4:14-15

¹⁴that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

¹⁵but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ

B. We must Wear God's armor every day.
Ephesians 6:11-18

¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of $\square$ the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

¹⁴Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness,

¹⁵and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

¹⁶above all, taking the **shield of faith** with which, you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.

¹⁷And take the **helmet of salvation**, and the **sword of the Spirit**, which is the word of God;

¹⁸praying always with all prayer and supplication(request) in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

C. We must keep in mind our assurance of deliverance in Christ.
2 Timothy 1:8-9.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,

⁹who has saved us and called *us* with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

D. We must remain humble.

1 Peter 5:6-9.

⁶Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

⁷casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

⁸Be sober, be vigilant; [ⓧ]because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

⁹Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

F. We must keep in mind our reward for enduring persecution in Christ.

Galatians 6:7-10.

⁷Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

⁸For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

⁹And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

¹⁰Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.