

Blessed are Those Who have been

PERSECUTED

for the Sake of

RIGHTEOUSNESS,

for Theirs is

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

1. Not as short

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- 2. Not a spiritual or character quality

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- 3. Double blessing

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- 4. All about the kingdom of heaven (inclusio)

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- 4. All about the kingdom of heaven (inclusio)
- 5. Consequence of righteous living

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Jesus ...

If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you.

John 15.19-20

Paul ...

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Jesus Christ will be persecuted.

2 Timothy 3.12

In Philippi ...

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake.

Philippians 1.29

In Thessalonica...

We ourselves boast about you in the churches of God for your steadfastness and faith in all your persecutions and in the afflictions that you are enduring.

2 Thessalonians 1.4

In Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and in Bithynia ...

Do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1 Peter 4.12



More than 360m **Christians** suffer high levels of persecution and discrimination for their faith.

1 in 7 Christians are persecuted worldwide



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Source: opendoors.org

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Pray for the persecuted church

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REMEMBER, this is not our home

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EXPECT to suffer

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CLING to the sovereignty of God