

Series: Mark: A Faithful Follower

Sermon Title: How To Deal With Persecution

Passage: Mark 13:9-13

Preached: June 4, 2023 by Chase Snyder

Main Point: When we face persecution we must stand firm, boldly proclaim the Gospel, and trust in Jesus, while we praise God for His faithfulness.

What is persecution? Persecution is hostility towards a person because of their beliefs or ethnicity.

Persecution is used to silence the Gospel but persecution is actually an opportunity to share the Gospel.

Types of Persecution: mocking, harassment, threats, violence, imprisonment, death.

Mark 13:9–13 (CSB)

⁹“But you, be on your guard! They will hand you over to local courts, and you will be flogged in the synagogues. You will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a witness to them.

¹⁰And it is necessary that the gospel be preached to all nations.

¹¹So when they arrest you and hand you over, don’t worry beforehand what you will say, but say whatever is given to you at that time, for it isn’t you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.

¹²“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death.

¹³You will be hated by everyone because of my name, but the one who endures to the end will be saved.

How To Deal With Persecution:

When we face persecution we must **stand firm, boldly proclaim the Gospel**, and **trust in Jesus**, while we **praise God** for His faithfulness.

5 Questions To Consider When Facing Persecution

1. Am I being persecuted because of my faith in Jesus?

a. *Mark 13:9 (CSB)*

“But you, be on your guard! They will hand you over to local courts, and you will be flogged in the synagogues. You will stand before governors and kings because of me, as a witness to them.”

2. Have I prayed for endurance and boldness?

a. *Mark 13:10–13 (CSB)*

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3. Am I able to make peace?

a. *Romans 12:9–21 (CSB)*

⁹Let love be without hypocrisy. Detest evil; cling to what is good.

¹⁰Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters. Take the lead in honoring one another.

¹¹Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit; serve the Lord.

¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer.

¹³Share with the saints in their needs; pursue hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.

¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation.

¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes.

¹⁸If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

¹⁹Friends, do not avenge yourselves; instead, leave room for God's wrath, because it is written, Vengeance belongs to me; I will repay, says the Lord.

²⁰But If your enemy is hungry, feed him. If he is thirsty, give him something to drink. For in so doing you will be heaping fiery coals on his head.

²¹Do not be conquered by evil, but conquer evil with good.

4. Have I prayed for the person persecuting me, that they come to faith in Jesus?

a. *Matthew 5:43–44 (CSB)*

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.

⁴⁴But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

5. Am I joyful during this persecution?

a. *James 1:2–4 (CSB)*

²Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials,

³because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

⁴And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.

b. *1 Peter 4:12–14 (CSB)*

¹²Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you, as if something unusual were happening to you.

¹³Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed.

¹⁴If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.