

CHOSEN 2

Blessed Are The Persecuted For Righteousness Sake

Matthew 5:10

Week 8 May 21, 2023

Pastor Mike Popovich

Blessed are the persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. Matthew 5:10

We walk **with** Jesus and He leads us in a righteous life.

As a follower of Jesus you are in the Kingdom of Heaven on earth right now.

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. 12 Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. 1 Peter 2:11-12 NIV

The Holy Spirit gives us the belonging we are looking for.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27 NIV

In the end the Kingdom of Heaven will and has conquered death.

For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong. 18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit. 1 Peter 3:13-18 NIV

What Jesus did gives Him the right to bring us to Heaven and seat us in the presence of the most high God. Jesus gives us life.

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. 19 If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. 20 Remember what I told you: ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also. John 15:18-20a NIV

And while our new reality may indeed be invisible, even nonsensical to those who are perishing, here is the truth that gives life and sustains life here on earth.

JESUS REIGNS

For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him; 12 If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us; 13 If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself. 2 Timothy 2:11-13 NAS

Faith is believing in the evidence of what we cannot directly see but experience.

JESUS IS OUR REFUGE

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. 1 Corinthians 10:13 NIV

WE REJOICE IN JESUS

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...Romans 5:1-5 NAS

IN JESUS WE HAVE ALREADY WON

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. Romans 8:31-35, 37 NAS

Do you love them enough to pray for them and care enough to work at building a relationship?