



“The Persecuted”

Southern Lakes Church
 Pastor Ken Brummel
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Matthew 5:1-12

Are you an “undercover Christian?”

❖ It is the Persecuted who are _____

- “Blessed” doesn’t mean that persecution is fun and enjoyable.
- “Blessed” means deep and abiding, lasting joy and fulfillment from God. This is the blessing of the Beatitudes.
- **What kind of blessing are you living for?** If you are living for the world’s blessing, you will be bummed when persecution comes, because it may cost you your worldly blessings.
- Luke 21:10-17
- This beatitude contains a _____ blessing.

❖ The Persecution is because of _____

- What is persecution?

“Persecution is simply a clash between two irreconcilable value-systems.” -John Stott-

- When we exhibit Christlikeness we will experience what _____ experienced.
- **The history of Christianity is a trail of _____.**

Visit opendoorsusa.org or persecution.com (Voice of the Martyrs) for stories of worldwide persecution.

What about America?

“Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” II Timothy 3:12

If you never want to experience persecution, do these 7 things... or you can make a better choice...

1.	Follow the _____	Follow Jesus
2.	Keep your mouth shut	Be _____
3.	Enjoy _____ entertainment	Be Holy
4.	Don’t pray or read the Bible	_____ the Bible
5.	Don’t be _____	Be an informed and involved citizen
6.	Don’t go to church	_____ in church
7.	Live and _____	Live and take a stand

We have a _____!

❖ Persecution leads to _____ and Reward

- Romans 8:17-18
- Mark 10:29-30
- Acts 5:40-42

❖ The Beatitudes _____ with “the Kingdom of Heaven”

Application questions:

1. Do you take your religious freedoms for granted?
2. Are you _____ or faithful?
3. Are you clamming up or speaking up?
4. Are you _____ or involved?
5. Are you procrastinating or praying?

What is the secret to a truly blessed life?