

HAPPY ARE THE HARASSED
(Matthew 5:10-12)



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Matthew 5:10-12

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



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2 Timothy 3:12

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



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1 Peter 4:4

. . . they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you . . .



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Since all the beatitudes describe what every Christian disciple is intended to be, we conclude that the condition of being despised and rejected, slandered and persecuted, is as much a normal mark of Christian discipleship as being pure in heart or merciful. Every Christian is to be a peacemaker, and every Christian is to expect opposition. Those who hunger for righteousness will suffer for the righteousness they crave. . . We should not be surprised if anti-Christian hostility increases, but rather be surprised if it does not.

~John Stott



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Luke 6:26

Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.



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John 15:20-21

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. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. 21 But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.



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Hebrews 11:13-16

. . . having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. 14 For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.



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“What is the reward? . . . It is so glorious and wonderful that our human language is of necessity almost bound to detract from its glory . . . So there is a sense in which even the Bible cannot tell us about heaven because we should misunderstand it. But it does tell us something like this. We shall see Him as He is, and worship in His glorious presence. Our very bodies will be changed, and glorified, with no sickness or disease. There will be no sorrow, no sighing; all tears shall be wiped away. All will be perpetual glory. No wars or rumors of wars; no separation, no unhappiness, nothing that drags a man down and makes him unhappy . . . Unmixed joy, and glory, and holiness, and purity and wonder! That is what is awaiting us. That is your destiny and mine in Christ as certainly as we are alive at this moment. How foolish we are if we do not spend our time in thinking about that.”

~Martyn Lloyd-Jones



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