

Beatitudes Series: Conclusion

Message Summary: There is an aggressive, consistently growing, vocal and active attack on the church in our culture. In a society where every viewpoint is tolerated and every ideology is celebrated, there is one that is becoming unacceptable--the Christian viewpoint. Once we were marginalized; now we are attacked. What are we to make of this? How secure is the church of Christ? What can we expect in the future and how should we respond to those who want to silence us?

Prepping For Persecution

Luke 21:12-19

1. Followers of Christ Unexpected Future. (vs.12-17)

- A. Hated by the religious establishment.
- B. Hated by the secular world.
- C. Betrayed by family.
- D. Death.

2. Followers of Christ Unavoidable Factor. "For My Name's sake" (vs.12, 17)

- A. Because of Christ's Person.
- B. Because of Christ's message.

3. Christ's Unwavering Followers. (vs.18-19)

- A. Rest in His promises. Matthew 10:28-33
- B. Remain Perseverant. Mark 13:13; Revelation 3:6
- C. Stay on Course: Matthew 5:13-16
 - #1 Shine your light.
 - #2 Spread your salt.

LifeGroup Questions

BEGIN IT (5min) - Praise the Lord & pray that God leads the study.

OPEN IT (10min) - If you were among the first Disciples, what would you think when Jesus told His Followers to expect persecution?

EXPLORE IT (60min) - Take time to review Sunday's sermon outline.

1. How secure is the church of Christ from attacks?
2. What can we expect in the future? And, how should we respond to those who want to silence us?
3. When was the last time you were persecuted (verbally or physically) for your faith? How did you respond? What was the outcome?
4. Explain how these made you want to share your faith in Christ again or not?
5. How have your expectations of being a Follower of Christ changed over time?
6. How should our Elder Community of Christians remind the Next Generation about the possibility of persecution?

APPLY IT (15min) - How can you best prepare for future persecution, and what should we continue to do as Christians who are passing through this life?