



# KINGDOM HAPPINESS

## HAPPY ARE THE PERSECUTED

Matthew 5:10-12

Pastor Hayden Thomas • Compass Bible Church Hill Country • May 14, 2023 • Msg. 23-19

**PREACHING POINT:** We need to rejoice in every suffering associated with our connection to Christ, knowing that our persecution is proof of our heavenly citizenship and that all our suffering for Christ comes with the promise of great reward in heaven.

1. Stand \_\_\_\_\_ (v.10)

### Matthew 5:10-12

10 "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. (ESV)

2. Be \_\_\_\_\_ (v.11,12b)

3. Stay \_\_\_\_\_ (v.10b,12)

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about LifeGroups at Compass Bible Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their weekly discussion, please visit [compasshillcountry.org/lifegroups](http://compasshillcountry.org/lifegroups) or email us at [info@compasshillcountry.org](mailto:info@compasshillcountry.org).*

1. What is one observation or application you found particularly helpful from this week's sermon?
2. Read [Philippians 1:27–29](#) and [Philippians 2:14–18](#). Consider how these verses exhort you to stand out in a sinful world. How is suffering and standing firm in Christ profitable for assurance of your faith and proof of the world's coming condemnation outside of Christ?
3. Why should we see persecution for our faith as more than a possibility if we live out our faith according to the beatitudes?
4. Read [1 Peter 3:14–17](#). Why is trusting God's sovereignty in suffering for Christ necessary to remain faithful in our culture?
5. Read [Acts 5:40–42](#). How does the attitude of Peter and the apostles give you a resolve to be willing to be counted with Christ even when that association includes persecution?
6. In what ways are Christians persecuted today in North America?
7. Do a quick internet search for "Christian persecution in the world today." Write down your thoughts on the biblical realities of suffering that our brothers and sisters in Christ endure around the world?
8. Read [1 Peter 4:12-16](#) and [Romans 8:18-25](#). What can you do this week to stay focused on your future with Christ in the midst of increasing hostility toward the Christian faith?

## *This Week's Bible Reading Schedule*

### **May 14<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 9-11 & John 5:1-24*

### **May 15<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 12-14 & John 5:25-47*

### **May 16<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 15-17 & John 6:1-21*

### **May 17<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 18-19 & John 6:22-44*

### **May 18<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 20-22 & John 7:1-31*

### **May 19<sup>th</sup>**

*2 Kings 23-25 & John 7:32-53*

### **May 20<sup>th</sup>**

*1 Chronicles 1-2 & John 8:1-20*

### **May 21<sup>st</sup>**

*1 Chron 3-5 & John 8:21-36*

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