Palmetto Baptist Church – *January 8, 2012* Blessed are the Persecuted – *Matthew 5:10-12* 

## Inside the Text

- I. Persecution is the natural result of a Spirit-filled life.
  - A. Expect persecution to come.
  - B. Embrace persecution as part of God's plan.

## **II.** Persecution has value only when connected to Christ.

- A. Christ has a standard for you to uphold. (vs. 10)
- B. Christ has a reputation for you to defend. (vs. 11)
- C. Christ has an example for you to follow. (vs. 12)

## Apply the Text

- Rejoice in God's plan to allow you to suffer persecution.
- Live a life worthy of suffering for the sake of Christ.
- Hope in God's promise to uphold you in the midst of suffering.
- Pray for the persecuted church.