

Courage to Face Persecution  
Matthew 5:3-12

Slide(s) -

3“God blesses those who are poor and realize their need for him,  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

4God blesses those who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

5God blesses those who are humble,  
for they will inherit the whole earth.

6God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice,  
for they will be satisfied.

7God blesses those who are merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

8God blesses those whose hearts are pure,  
for they will see God.

9God blesses those who work for peace,  
for they will be called the children of God.

10God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right,  
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

11“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you  
and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. 12Be  
happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And  
remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

Slide - The Beatitudes are not a way to salvation

Slide - The Beatitudes are evidences of a Christ follower

Slide - The Beatitudes are counter-cultural

Slide - If you exhibit the Beatitudes you will face opposition

Slide - “When truth meets an unrepentant heart, there will be conflict”

Slide(s) - 2 Timothy 3:10-14 - <sup>10</sup>But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and  
how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my  
love, and my endurance. <sup>11</sup>You know how much persecution and suffering I have

endured. You know all about how I was persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra —but the Lord rescued me from all of it. <sup>12</sup>**Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.** <sup>13</sup>But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived.<sup>14</sup>But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you.

Slide - You will face persecution because you demonstrate righteousness

Slide - Matthew 5:11 - <sup>11</sup>“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers.

Slide - “Each Month” Graphic

Slide - Picture of Baronnelle and Arlene’s Flowers Sign on same slide, with Baronnelle picture being larger.

Slide - You will face persecution because you follow Jesus

Slide - The result of persecution should be joy

Slide - And a realization of the Kingdom of Heaven

Slide - Baronnelle Quote picture.