

# HANDLING HARASSMENT FOR YOUR FAITH

## Part 8 of 8

Matthew 5:10-12 "Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires; the Kingdom of heaven belongs to them!" (vs 10 GN)

### 1. The Reality of Harassment

". . . when men insult you . . ." (vs 11a)

### 2. The Reason for Harassment

". . . because you are my followers" (vs. 11b)

"No servant is greater than his master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also."  
Jn. 15:20

"Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted." 2 Tim 3:12

### 3. My Response to Harassment

\* **Recognize** \_\_\_\_\_

"We are not fighting against human beings, but against wicked spiritual forces. . ." Eph 6:12  
(GN)

\* **Refuse** \_\_\_\_\_

"If someone does evil to you, don't pay him back with evil. . . Never take revenge. . . let God's wrath do it." Rom. 12:17 + 19 (GN)

\* **Respond** \_\_\_\_\_

"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." Rom 12:21

"Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matt. 5:44

\* **Rejoice** \_\_\_\_\_

"Be glad and happy . . .!" (vs 12a)

### Reasons to Rejoice

\* **It means** \_\_\_\_\_

..... "If you are insulted because of Christ, you are blessed, . . . for God's Spirit rests on you."  
1 Pet. 4:14

\* **It means** \_\_\_\_\_

..... "The apostles (were) full of joy that God considered them worthy to suffer disgrace for Jesus' name." Acts 5:41

\* **It is** \_\_\_\_\_

..... "These troubles . . . won't last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever!" 2 Cor. 4:17 (LB)

\* **Remember** \_\_\_\_\_

"Since we are God's children . . . if we share Christ's suffering, we will also share in his glory." Rom. 8:17 (GN)

\*.... **Remain** \_\_\_\_\_

"So those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good." 1 Pet 4:19