

Believing God

Persecution of Faith Message 12

Perry Duggar
September 6, 2020

► Outline

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
2 Timothy 3:12 (NLT)

A. Introduction

B. Living by faith...

(Hebrews 11:35b-40. C/R: Daniel 3:17-18;
2 Timothy 3:12)

1. Promises _____.
(Hebrews 11:35b-37a. C/R: John 15:20; 16:33;
Romans 8:35-38; 1 Peter 4:12-13)

2. Predicts _____.
(Hebrews 11:37b-38. C/R: Matthew 5:10-12;
1 Peter 4:12-16,19; 5:7-10)

3. Prepares for _____.
(Hebrews 11:39-40. C/R: Romans 5:3-4; 8:18;
2 Corinthians 4:17-18; James 1:2-4)

Answers: 1. persecution 2. rejection 3. eternity

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

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► Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to study the Bible and pursue a deeper relationship with God.

Conversation Starter

What is one thing you're looking forward to?

Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you reflect on this week's lesson.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read [Hebrews 11:35-40](#).

1. List some of the fretful challenges these people of faith endured.
2. How is it possible that being a Christian can actually make some things harder?
3. What are some of the reasons God does not always deliver those who trust in Him?
4. What caused these men and women of faith to endure such extreme persecution?
5. Name different ways people respond when faced with hardship and suffering.
6. Why is the world a difficult place for people of faith (vs. 38)?
See also: [2 Corinthians 4:3-4](#); [1 John 5:19](#).
7. What did God provide for us that's *better* (vs. 40)?
See also: [1 Corinthians 15:51-54](#); [Titus 2:13](#).

8. How does your view of heaven impact your life today?
9. While none of us seeks difficulty, how might these verses encourage us to endure when we face trials and persecution because of our faith?
See also: [Deuteronomy 31:6, 8](#), [Joshua 1:5](#), [1 Chronicles 28:20](#).
10. How are you different than the people described in this passage? In what ways are you the same?
11. Jesus suffered the greatest trial and torture – death on a cross. How does this give you hope as you seek to follow God in faith?

Soul Training

Practice listening to God. Meditate on [Psalm 91](#). Which words or phrases seem most significant for your life right now? Ask God to fill your mind with His thoughts, and wait for Him to speak.

Memory Verse

Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
[2 Timothy 3:12 \(NLT\)](#)

Daily Reading

- Day 1: [2 Timothy 3:12-17](#) Day 4: [Matthew 5:10-12](#)
Day 2: [Daniel 3:16-18](#) Day 5: [Hebrews 2:8-16](#)
Day 3: [Revelation 12:10-12](#)

Prepare for Next Sunday

Next Sunday, September 13, we'll look at the target and the atmosphere God wants us to aim for in the coming church year. To prepare, read [Romans 12:16-18](#) and [Galatians 5:6](#).



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