

“THE BEATITUDE SERIES”
 Delivered to **DANVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH**
S.S Lord’s Day July 17th 2016
Elder Jeff E. King TH.M.

Mt. 5:10

Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:
 for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Persecuted:

Dioko- διώκω -to put to flight, drive away/ drove out/to pursue (someone pursuing you)

Also: to follow

Thlipsis- tribulation/affliction

DBC- No one here has been driven out or pursued or afflicted.

Most will never be persecuted. Because:

- 1- They do not have this virtue!
- They have never had this virtue.
- They will never receive this virtue.

Why? Because they have never been “**poor in spirit**”.

- 2- I can say with confidence that most believers do not believe that there is a “**persecution for righteousness’ sake**” is a virtue!!

How am I so confident? Because people **will not do anything** God says to do, including minister. Joining a church/club (basically the same thing) is as far as people will go on being spiritual. Am I too hard on man?? I have no faith in man, at all.

However: It has been prophesied.

John 15:20

Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;

Fourteen persons, the chiefest of whom was called Stephen, are burned as heretics, for the testimony of the truth, by the papists, A. D. 1022, at Orleans in France.

Then follows a note concerning the accusations brought against the afore-mentioned persons; and also, further observations touching said fourteen martyrs, according to the accounts of various papistic and other writers, noted in the *Second Book of the Persecutions*.

The great craftiness of the papist, Gretserus, in altering the titles of the books of the ancients, to the detriment of the belief of the Waldenses; some of their martyrs called firstlings, which is circumstantially noticed in the margin.

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I can show a lot of documentation where forgery has occurred

Be confident in Anabaptist theology!!

Some pious saints at Goslar, called Manicheans by the papists, hanged for the confession of the evangelical truth, A. D. 1052. **It is shown:**

1. That they claimed to lead a true apostolic life;
2. That they would neither lie nor swear;
3. That they maintained that the sacrament of the altar was nothing but bread;
4. That they denied baptism, that is, infant baptism.

Henry and Alfuard, two good Christians, the former beheaded in the uttermost parts of Sweden, the latter slain among the Normans, for defending the evangelical doctrine, A. D. 1067.

Note:

The word **Inquisition** was not so much as heard of before the 13th century; but it has spread throughout the whole world. Eventually the term Inquisition itself was called a “Holy Office”
Socrates 1:1-2 – The History of the Inquisition.

These types of persecutions began to change in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Proof of this shift was the announcement of Vatican 2.

Today, the world is much smaller, and persecution still exist in various forms.

There is no short cut to Biblical Persecution. Most that claim to experience it – haven't.
Personally, I do not believe you can go looking for Biblical Persecution.
One reason, a pure heart would not allow that.

Persecution for righteousness sake is often misidentified.
But, the Lord will judge it on: “That Great Day”