



“Jesus Presents Your Opportunity”

Luke 21:12-19

July 12th, 2020

Questions for Application and Fellowship

MY STORY

1. What are some of the hardest experiences of harassment, ridicule or violence you’ve faced for being a follower of Christ?

QUICK REVIEW

It’s the final week of the life of Christ, and Jesus is teaching and preaching in the temple courts. The Jewish authorities have categorically rejected Jesus and are plotting his death by crucifixion. As they are leaving the temple for the evening, some of the disciples point out the lavish nature of the temple stones and beautifications. Jesus declares the coming destruction of the Jerusalem temple and His glorious 2nd Coming to the earth. In the section, Jesus describes the persecution His disciples will face prior to the destruction of the temple. We too can expect to face suffering for being followers of Christ. But wonderful opportunities will come even of such times.

Read Luke 21:12-19

Persecution is your opportunity...

1. To bear _____ (21:12-13).
2. To have _____ (21:14-15).
3. To gain _____ (21:16-19).

Was any point in this weekend’s message particularly challenging, encouraging or helpful for you?

Why did God want you to hear this message now?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12. Focusing on verses 10-12, what kind of language does Jesus use to describe those who suffer persecution? What's His rationale for using such language?
2. Looking at how society is changing in the 21st Century in America, what kinds of difficulty do you think become possible for Christians? How does Jesus want us to view those hardships?
3. In Luke 21:14-15, Jesus assures His disciples He will give them words to say when they undergo formal trial. Compare this with Luke 12:8-12. What are the similarities and differences?
4. Have you ever had the sense of Jesus providing you with boldness and testimony "on the spot"?
5. In the end, Jesus gives us a call to have endurance under trial. Read Isaiah 7:7-9 and II Timothy 4:1-8. What encouragement do you receive from the closing sentence?