

PERILOUS TIMES-(REVISED) 2

WHAT DOES GOD WANT YOU TO DO?

We live in perilous times. This country is in a downward spiral of chaos, confusion, lawlessness, division, disorder, pandemonium and anarchy and rebellion. We are told in God's word that we who are Christians may face persecution, harassment, discrimination and maltreatment. In Jesus own words We read in Luke 21:12-19.

21:

(read excerpts from the printouts)

(read the scriptures on persecution)

John 15:20, Matt. 24:8-10, Luke 21:12-19, 2 Tim. 3:12, 2 Cor. 12:10, Rom. 8:35-37 Matt. 10:21-23

There are three things I want us to address this morning in light of the scriptures and persecution.

A. ENDURANCE (STAMINA, RESOLUTION, FORTITUDE, STAYING POWER

Hebrews 11:22-38, Rom 5:3-5 , James 1:12

B. COMMITMENT (loyalty, obligation, dedication, promise) 2 Tim 4:7 ,

C. RESULTS IN OVERCOMING Luke 16:10

We really don't know what persecution is. We are beginning to read, see and feel what it is like or the way it will be, by observing what is happening in our own country. (read the excerpts about what is happening in USA) John 16:33

LEVELS OF PERSECUTION

1. Slander, insult, (once or twice)
2. Intimidation, bullying (ongoing)
3. Threats, risks
4. Damage, harm, injury (repeatedly)
5. Torture, physical, sexual abuse (severe and repeatedly)
6. Killing, death, murder

GENOCIDE- the gravest crime against humanity, the mass attempt at exterminating a group of people such

As Hitler did against the Jewish people. It is believed that genocide is being attempted today against religious groups, especially Christians. (Give examples) The ongoing war in Syria and rise of ISIS in Iraq have created the largest refugee crisis in history, forcing more than 4 million Christians from their homes.