

WHAT IS IT?

The persecuted church refers to people who identify as Christians and experience any hostility due to that identification. While many forms of discrimination exist and are experienced by believers globally, the term persecuted church is most often referencing Christians that live, work and minister outside of the USA.¹

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT THIS TOPIC?

2 Timothy 3:12-15

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and imposters will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 4:17-18

But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 2:10 (NIV)

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown.

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

As Christians we care about the persecuted church because they are in our family - the large family of believers globally. These are the people we will spend eternity with, glorifying God. We are to be in fervent prayer for our brothers and sisters around the globe who are daily risking their safety and even lives to further God's kingdom by sharing the gospel.