

# PERSECUTION AND PERSEVERANCE (Part 2)

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—Aug 18th, 2024

Mark 13:9-13

(ESV)

[9] *“But be on your guard. For they will deliver you over to councils, and you will be beaten in synagogues, and you will stand before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them. [10] And the gospel must first be proclaimed to all nations. [11] And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit. [12] And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death. [13] And you will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.*”

## INTRODUCTION

The goal of the Christian faith is only granted to those who persevere in light of persecution.

**2 Timothy 3:12**—[12] *Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted...*

*“Satan wants to destroy our faith in God. God wants to destroy our faith in ourselves so that we might trust in him.”—John Kimbell*

## REVIEW

### Mark 13

- Prophetic literature.
- Destruction of Jerusalem and the temple / Jesus’ return in the clouds
- Preterism / Futurism / Historicism

Along with persecution believers receive grace from the Lord that will aid us to be faithful through all circumstances.

## PURPOSE

Jesus is telling his disciples that they would suffer, but their suffering would not be in vain; they would suffer as representatives of Christ!

**2 Timothy 4:6–8**—[6] *For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. [7] I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. [8] Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.*

Angle your life so that the glory of Christ is your greatest goal.

**Acts 2:5**—*Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

**Colossians 1:6**—*[This gospel], which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing...*

## PROVIDENCE

There is no such thing as 'luck' for Christians, there is only the providence of God.

### Proverbs 16:9

*[9] The heart of man plans his way,  
but the LORD establishes his steps.*

'anxiety' = to worry ahead of time.

Anxiety fails to believe that the Lord will provide us with what we need when we need it.

## PERSEVERANCE

### Psalm 55:12–13

*[12] For it is not an enemy who taunts me—  
then I could bear it;  
it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me—  
then I could hide from him.*

*[13] But it is you, a man, my equal,  
my companion, my familiar friend.*

The invitation Christ issues to all his disciples is an invitation that abounds in suffering.

**Mark 8:34**—*"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."*

Suffering is necessary for the Christian because suffering ultimately produces salvation.

We persevere because Jesus persevered.

**Mark 10:33–34**—*"See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. [34] And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.*

We today can persevere in our faith because Christ persevered in our salvation.