

The Early Church is Tested – Part 5
The Early Church is Persecuted by the Government

How do we deal with persecution?

- I. Realize that God will not deliver _____ from persecution (Acts 12:1-2)
- II. Understand that people will find _____ in seeing Christians persecuted (Acts 12:3-4)
Three reasons why Herod was arresting Peter
 - A. The Jews were _____ with James' execution
 - B. Peter was known as the _____ of the church
 - C. Peter had fraternized with _____
- III. When persecution starts, start with _____ (Acts 12:5)
- IV. When going through persecution, _____ and _____ God (Acts 12:6-10)
 - A. Despite facing possible death in the morning, Peter trusts God so much that he is able to _____ (Acts 12:6-7)
Peter is sleeping so soundly that the Angel has to wake him
 - B. Peter _____ the angel but believes he is seeing a vision (Acts 12:8-10)
- V. When you are delivered from persecution, give God the _____ and gratitude He deserves (Acts 12:11-12)
- VI. Believe that God can _____ you from persecution (Acts 12:13-17)
 - A. The people _____ to believe that Peter has been freed from jail (Acts 12:13-15)
 - B. When they finally realize it is Peter, they are still _____ (Acts 12:16)
- VII. God will deal with those who persecute the church according to His _____ and in His _____ (Acts 12:18-23)
- VIII. God's _____ will continue to _____ through persecution (Acts 12:24)

Questions to Ponder

- I. Are you _____ to be persecuted?
- II. When you are persecuted, do you _____ God?
- III. Is your walk with God _____ of persecution?
- IV. Is the work that we do at FBC so important that the _____ will do anything to _____ it?

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