

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

RLJ-1371

JOHN S. TORELL

DECEMBER 2, 2012

### PART 16: ARE YOU READY FOR PERSECUTION?

No pastor or evangelist is eager to preach on suffering. Most people do not want to hear such a message and believe this is something that happens to other people but not to them. The suffering in today's message comes from persecution.

#### **REMEMBER YOUR SUFFERING**

Paul reminded the Hebrew Christians of their great suffering when they first came to Christ. **Hebrews 10:32-33**

Paul was familiar with suffering; he was told what lay ahead of him from the day he was commissioned by the Holy Spirit to preach the Gospel. **Acts 9:8-16**

While Jesus walked on this earth, He clearly outlined that following Him was going to bring persecution and suffering. **Matthew 10:16-25**

The believer in Christ must learn not to fear persecution. **verses 26-31**

Regardless of the threats, we are not to deny Jesus. **verses 32-33**

The persecution will begin in the homes of believers. **verses 34-39**

#### **LIVE IN THE SUPERNATURAL**

Fervent prayer can change the bleakest situation of persecution. **Acts 12:1-17**

Praising God in the direst of circumstances will bring down the power of God. **Acts 16:16-34**

#### **EXPECT PERSECUTION TO INCREASE**

Jesus warned that during the tribulation period there will be persecution on a scale never before seen in the world. **Matthew 24:15-22; Revelation 13:4-9; 14:12-13**

#### **EXHORTATION BY THE APOSTLE PAUL**

Despite the hardship experienced by the Hebrew Christians, they still sent physical support to Paul and he thanked them for their kindness. **verse 34**

Paul admonished them not throw away their confidence in Christ. **verse 35**

There is a need for endurance so that we can do the will of God. **verses 36-37**

Make sure that you do not defect from Jesus and his church and become cursed and ruined. **verses 38-39**



Regardless of what you believe, at the end of your life on this earth, you have an appointment at the Judgment Seat of Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:10**

You will be judged by every word you have spoken. **Matthew 12:36-37**

Repentance on this side of eternity will save you from many tears at the Judgment Seat of Christ. **1 John 1:4-10**

***Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***